

NEW SEASON – NEW YARNS!
COOL COTTONS & LUXURY LINENS INSIDE

Let's

ISSUE 78 APR 2014

Knit

THE UK'S BESTSELLING KNIT MAG

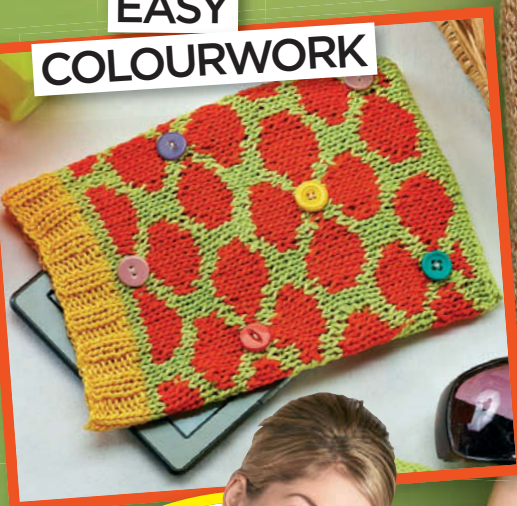
25 FAB MAKES
for Spring!

BLOUSE-STYLE TOP

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FAB FAIR ISLE CARDI

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Welcome... to Let's Knit

Meet the Team...



Deputy Editor,
Adrienne Chandler

adrienne.chandler@aceville.co.uk

This month...

I've been falling in love with spinning. Read my feature on page 55 to be inspired to create your own yarns. So, who fancies buying me a spinning wheel? Anyone? **Adrienne's favourite project:** Springtime, p94



Editorial Assistant,
Amy Adams

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This month...

I've been lusting after the sumptuous new yarns and patterns released for spring/summer 2014. Check them out for yourself on page 31. **Amy's favourite project:** Honeybee (p39)



Editorial Assistant,
Abbi Henderson

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This month...

I've been talking to homeknit guru Melanie Porter (p98) and enjoying all your fabulous letters and online makes (p62) **Abbi's favourite project:** Binky (p75)



Editor, Sarah Neal

Here at Let's Knit we've been overcome by **Spring fever**, and our April issue is positively brimming with the joys of the season. We've got an **Easter duck** (p13), a **garden-themed** teacosy (p65), a crochet mobile full of chicks and bunnies (p94), a flower-covered kindle case (p17), a menagerie of mini-beasts (p71), a **stunning** lace wrap called Honeybee (p39) and last but not least, a **FREE** kit to make Baa-bara the adorable sheep. You'll find the pattern on your bonus leaflet, and everything you need, including button eyes and a fabulous **bouclé-effect** yarn, in your cover-mounted pack. Send us pictures of your finished Baa-baras to enter our Readers' Makes competition

on Facebook! You'll find the details for how to get in touch on page 62.

We've also got some **gorgeous** garments and accessories in this issue. My particular favourite is Claire by Pat Menchini (p23), a kaftan-style top in luscious King Cole Bamboo Cotton – perfect for going from beach to bar!

Our campaign to make 2014 **'Love Your Yarn Shop'** year continues apace, and we have updates from some of the shops taking part, starting on page 78. Plans for Yarn Shop Day are hotting up, so keep **Saturday 3rd May** free and visit www.letsknit.co.uk for further updates.

Happy knitting!

Sarah

sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk



What knitter could resist a woolly friend like Baa-bara? Make your own with our **FREE** kit.



LK's technical expert Adrienne creates the step-by-step shots for this month's Knit School on page 49.



Claire by Pat Menchini is a stylish top that's perfect for highdays and holidays. Find it on page 23.



Knitted Crème
Egg cover, p16



Visit www.letsknit.co.uk
to view the winners

Need to get in touch?

Pattern queries: call 01206 508622 or email support@letsknit.co.uk

Advertising enquiries: call Julie Freestone on 01206 505913 or email julie.freestone@aceville.co.uk

Subscription queries: call 0844 844 0947 or email letsknit@servicehelpline.co.uk


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Quick Knit

Who cares? ...We do!

At **Let's Knit** we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer

THE LET'S KNIT PATTERN PROMISE:

- Exclusive patterns featured in Let's Knit have been professionally checked and reproduced with the utmost care. Updates can be found at www.letsknit.co.uk
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By email: support@letsknit.co.uk
By telephone: 01206 508622 (office hours only)
By post: at the address on page 92 (please mark your envelope 'Support')
 (Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

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17 Sunny



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Melanie Porter discusses the intimate secrets of her yarn stash

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This issue's **FREE GIFT!**

Baa-bara the sheep knitting kit!



RICO BABY SO SOFT DK

Super soft for baby with anti-pilling performance



Visit our website www.rico-design.co.uk

this month we LOVE!

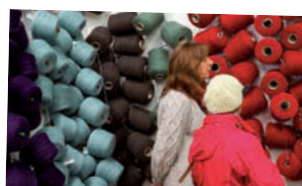
We've waved goodbye to winter
and are looking forward to the
excitement that spring has in store!

And after all you're my WONDERWOOL

At Let's Knit we love experimenting with different yarns and expanding our stash. What better way to find inspiration for projects than by taking a trip to a festival all about yarn? Wonderwool Wales takes place from 26-27th April and is host to a whole variety of exhibitors bringing you special displays, demonstrations, retail therapy galore and the chance to get hands on with have-a-go sessions and workshops! Exhibitors like the British Coloured Sheep Breeders' Association will bring along some of their animals and Alison Murray will have her latest creature with her too: 8ft-tall Archibald the Dragon! If you



need a rest in the middle of all the excitement, make sure you catch the Sheepwalk (that's a woolly take on a catwalk!) for a chance to to enjoy some beautiful creations. Enjoy! For more information, visit www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk



This month we're KNITTING...

LK Editor Sarah has been knitting this cosy little cowl. She said: "I adapted this design from a shop-bought cowl that took my fancy and I really enjoyed knitting it. It only took one skein of yarn and it's gorgeously warm to wear."



This month's TOP BUY

We're tickled pink with this cute yarn and needles rubber stamp by Skull and Cross Buns! It would be perfect for making crafty cards for your knitting friends. Why not use it to print on plain wrapping paper or gift tags when you give someone a knitted gift? Purchase the stamp for £7.50, and find more information and designs at www.notonthehighstreet.com, or call 0845 259 1359



DATES for your DIARY

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT	WIN!
3-5th	Creative Stitches & Hobbycrafts	London	www.ichfevents.co.uk	WIN!
10th April onwards	Ganseley Exhibition	Sheringham Museum	www.sheringhammuseum.co.uk	
11th	Let's Knit May issue on sale!	Nationwide	www.letsknit.co.uk	
18-21st	Easter Yarn Bombing Trail	American Museum in Britain, Bath	www.americanmuseum.org	
19-21st	Easter Craft and Garden Fair	Ringwood	www.craftcarnival.co.uk	
24-27th	The Creative Crafts Show	Shepton Mallet	www.sccshows.co.uk	WIN!

WIN
SEE PAGE
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UP TO
SIZE 26!

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Harriet is a
supple ribbed top in a *cool*
springtime yarn from Rico

Siân Brown's unique spring top is all about subtlety. The yarn, Rico Essentials Lino DK gets all its character from the cool natural colours which are spun with a contrasting linen thread. Meanwhile, Siân's twist on a broken rib pattern creates a beautiful surface texture that transforms this simple piece into a wardrobe staple.

START KNITTING ON P10

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26)

To fit chest (cm):

82 (86, 92, 97, 102, 107, 112, 117, 122, 127)

Actual chest (cm):

87 (93, 98, 103, 109, 114, 120, 125, 130, 136)

Length to shoulder (cm):

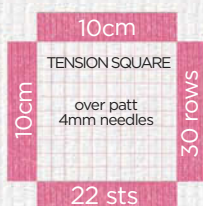
51 (52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60)

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Rico Essentials Lino, shade 007 Rust, 8 (8, 9, 10, 10, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14) 50g balls

Needles: 3.25mm straight, 4mm straight, 4mm circular

Tapestry needle



ABOUT THE YARN

Rico Essentials Lino DK is a brand new spring/summer yarn in eight natural shades. The silky matt feel is achieved with 55% cotton, 24% acrylic and 21% linen. Machine wash at 30°C.

Need an alternative yarn?

For a glitzy finish that's still light and cool to wear, try **Sirdar Ella DK**, a cotton and acrylic blend yarn which is finished with a sparkly metallic thread.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

Ytf – move yarn to front of needle

Ytb – move yarn to back of needle

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Rico Essentials Lino DK costs £2.49 per 50g (125m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



Sirdar Ella DK costs £2.62 per 50g (126m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk

START KNITTING HERE

Back

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 86 (92, 98, 102, 108, 114, 120, 124, 130, 136) sts

□ K 29 rows, inc 10 (10, 10, 12, 12, 12, 14, 14, 14) sts evenly across last row. 96 (102, 108, 114, 120, 126, 132, 138, 144, 150) sts

Change to 4mm circular needles, do not join in the round but work back and forth in rows

□ Row 1: [k1, k next st and leave on LH needle, ytf, p st tog with next st on LH needle, ytb] to end

□ Row 2: p to end

These two rows form patt

□ Work without shaping until Back meas 33cm from cast-on edge, ending after a p row

SHAPE ARMHOLES

□ Cast off 7 (7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9, 10) sts at beg of next two rows. 82 (88, 94, 98, 104, 110, 114, 120, 126, 130) sts

□ Next row: k2, skpo, patt to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Next row: p to end

□ Rep last two rows 5 (6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 11, 11) times more. 70 (74, 78, 82, 86, 90, 94, 98, 102, 106) sts **

□ Cont in patt until armhole meas 18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27) cm, ending after a p row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

□ Cast off 7 (7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 10, 10, 10) sts at beg of next four rows and 6 (7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 9, 11, 12) sts at beg of foll two rows. Leave rem 30 (32, 32, 34, 36, 36, 38, 40, 40, 42) sts on spare needle

Front

□ Work as for Back to **

SHAPE NECK

□ Next row: patt 27 (28, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39) sts, turn. Work on these sts only for first side of neck

□ Dec one st at neck edge on each RS row until 20 (21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32) sts rem

□ Work without shaping until Front meas same as Back to shoulder, ending at armhole edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Cast off 7 (7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 10, 10, 10) sts at beg of next and foll RS row

□ Work one row

□ Cast off rem 6 (7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 9, 11, 12) sts

□ With RS facing, place centre 16 (18, 18, 20, 22, 22, 24, 26, 26, 28) sts on to holder, rejoin yarn to rem sts, patt to end

□ Dec one st at neck edge on each RS row until 20 (21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32) sts rem

□ Work without shaping until Front meas same as Back to shoulder, ending at armhole edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Cast off 7 (7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 10, 10, 10) sts at beg of next and foll RS row

□ Work one row

□ Cast off rem 6 (7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10, 9, 11, 12) sts

Sleeves

(make two)

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 43 (46, 49, 50, 53, 56, 59, 60, 63, 66) sts

□ K nine rows, inc 8 (8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 12) sts evenly across last row. 51 (54, 57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72, 75, 78) sts

Change to 4mm needles

□ Row 1-2: work in patt as for Back

□ Inc one st into patt at each end of next and foll four fourth rows. 61 (64, 67, 70, 73, 76, 79, 82, 85, 88) sts

□ Work without shaping until Sleeve meas 10cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

□ Cast off 7 (7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9, 10) sts at beg of next two rows. 47 (50, 53, 54, 57, 60, 61, 64, 67, 68) sts

□ Next row: k2, skpo, patt to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Work three rows

□ Rep last four rows five times more. 35 (38, 41, 42, 45, 48, 49, 52, 55, 56) sts

□ Next row: k2, skpo, patt to last four sts, k2tog, k2

□ Next row: p to end

□ Rep last two rows 6 (7, 8, 8, 9, 10, 10, 11, 12, 13) times more. 21 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 28) sts

□ Cast off two sts at beg of next eight rows

□ Cast off

Neck edging

□ Using 3.25mm needles with RS facing, pick up and k 28 sts down left side of Front neck, k16 (18, 18, 20, 22, 22, 24, 26, 26, 28) sts on Front neck holder, pick up and k 28 sts up right side of Front neck, k30 (32, 32, 34, 36, 36, 38, 40, 40, 42) sts from Back neck holder. 102 (106, 106, 110, 114, 114, 118, 122, 122, 126) sts

□ K six rows

□ Cast off

Tie

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on ten sts

□ Row 1: k

knitwise

STRAIGHT OR CIRCULAR?: When working flat, it is instinctive for most knitters to reach for good old dependable straight needles. However, for projects with a large number of stitches on the Back and Front panels, these may not always be the best option. This is especially true if you don't have needle toppers to prevent your stitches sliding around between sessions! That's why we've recommended using circular needles, which can carry a lot more stitches and will help spread their weight. Cast on as you would normally, and then instead of joining into the round, simply turn your work and voila! Your stitches are now on the right-hand side, ready for a new row to begin.



"Linen is one of the most popular fibres for the 2014 spring/summer season. Find out all about what's new by turning to page 55."

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
AMY ADAMS

- ❑ Row 2: k1, m1, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1
- ❑ Rep last two rows until Tie meas 60cm
- ❑ Cast off

Tie centre

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on ten sts

- ❑ K 40 rows
- ❑ Cast off

To make up

Join side and Sleeve seams, sew Sleeves into armholes, easing to fit. Fold Tie to form bow, join cast-off to cast-on edge of bow centre, thread bow through and secure to waistband **LK**



*coming
nextissue*

SIÂN BROWN'S CUTE
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ADORABLE
DUCKLING!

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE TOY PATTERN

Gladys is a *super sweet*
duck on the hunt for Easter treats!

Designed by Val Pierce, this adorable fluffy duck is made in the softest of yarns to make her extra cuddly! Easter is a great excuse to knit a herd of cute toys, and Gladys is the perfect little stuffed buddy to accompany you through tireless cooking and entertaining this spring, and all year round. With her pretty bonnet, wiggly tail, and sunny personality she's bound to put a smile on every bunny's face this Easter (egg-scuse the pun). Just watch she doesn't try to pinch any of your chocolate eggs - she's crafty, this one!

START KNITTING ON P14

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Height: approx 28cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Sirdar Snowflake Chunky, (A) shade 647 Lemon, two 25g balls, (B) shade 630 Milky, one 25g ball, (C) Patons Fairytale Dreamtime DK, shade 04951 Orange, one 50g ball, small amounts of DK in green, pale pink, deep pink, blue, yellow

Needles: 4mm, 5mm

Safety stuffing

Safety eyes: black, two

Ribbon: 4cm wide, 80cm

ABOUT THE YARN

Sirdar Snowflake Chunky is a soft and fleecy yarn made of 100% polyester. It is easy care, and perfect for kids and baby knits. It's available in an array of solid and variegated pastel shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

King Cole Cuddles Chunky has a similar fleecy feel to that of the Snowflake Chunky, only it's a little fluffier. It's made from 100% polyester and comes in both bold and pastel shades.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Sirdar Snowflake Chunky costs £1.99 per 25g (62m) from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

10% off

Patons Fairytale Dreamtime DK costs £2.95 per 50g (90m) from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

Get 10% off all orders at Deramores! Turn to page 33



King Cole Cuddles Chunky costs £2.95 per 50g (125m) from 01924 565740, www.woolinstuff.co.uk



START KNITTING HERE

Head RIGHT SIDE

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts
 □ Work two rows in st st
 □ Inc one st each end of next and foll alt rows to 16 sts
 □ Work 13 rows in st st, ending after a p row

SHAPE HEAD

□ Next row: k2tog, k to end
 □ Next row: p
 □ Rep last two rows once more. 14 sts
 □ Next row: k2, skpo, k2, skpo, k1, k2tog, k1, k2tog. Ten sts
 □ Next row: p
 □ Work two rows in st st
 □ Next row: k2tog to end. Five sts
 □ Cast off

LEFT SIDE

□ Work as right side, reversing all shapings

Beak (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on 14 sts
 □ K four rows
 □ Dec one st each end of next, and every foll alt row until four sts rem
 □ Cast off (this is tip of beak)

Body (make two)

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on eight sts
 □ Work two rows in st st
 □ Next row: (kfb) in each st to end. 16 sts
 □ Work five rows in st st
 □ Next row: * k1, (kfb) in next st, rep from * to end. 24 sts
 □ Work three rows in st st
 □ Next row: * k2, (kfb) in next st, rep from * to end. 32 sts
 □ Work ten rows in st st
 □ Next row: * k2, k2tog, rep from * to end. 24 sts
 □ Work five rows in st st
 □ Next row: * k1, k2tog, rep from * to end. 16 sts
 □ Work five rows in st st
 □ Next row: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts
 □ Cast off (this is neck edge)

Feet (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on seven sts
 □ Work two rows in garter st
 □ Cont in garter st inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows to 17 sts
 □ K 20 rows
 □ Dec one st each end of next and every foll alt row to seven sts
 □ Work two rows
 □ Cast off

Bonnet

Using 5mm needles and yarn B, cast on 12 sts

□ Work in st st until work meas 10cm
 □ Cast on 12 sts at beg of next two rows. 36 sts
 □ Work in st st for a further 6cm
 □ Cast off

FRILL

Using 5mm needles and yarn B, cast on six sts

□ Work in garter st for 30 cm
 □ Cast off

Flowers (make eight)

Using 4mm needles and DK colour of your choice, cast on 25 sts

□ Next row: k
 □ Next row: Cast off first two sts in normal way, * yrn, pass st on needle over yrn, k1, cast off next st in normal way *, rep from * to * until all sts are cast off. Work will curl as you k. To make flower, coil up piece and arrange into a flower shape, secure with a few sts

Leaves (make two)

Using 4mm needles and green DK, cast on three sts

□ Next row: k
 □ Next row: (kfb) in first and last st. Five sts
 □ Next row: k
 □ Next row: (kfb) in first and last st. Seven sts
 □ K six rows in garter st
 □ K2tog at each end of row on next and foll alt rows to three sts
 □ K3tog
 □ Fasten off

Gladys has two large and two small wings



Wings (make two large and two small)

NOTE: number in brackets denotes instruction for large wing

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on two sts

❑ Next row: k

❑ Next row: kfb in first st, k to end

❑ Next row: k

❑ Next row: kfb in first st, k to last st, kfb

❑ Next row: k

❑ Cont to inc one st at beg and end on next and foll alt rows as before to 13 (17) sts

❑ Work 24 (28) rows in garter st without shaping

❑ Dec at each end of next and foll alt rows to 7 (9) sts

❑ Cast off

Tail

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on seven sts

❑ Work two rows in garter st

❑ Inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows to 17 sts

❑ K 20 rows without shaping

❑ Dec one st each end of next and every foll alt row to seven sts

❑ Work two rows

❑ Cast off



Flowers and leaves are sewn to each side of the bonnet



Sewing Gladys's tail on securely will help her balance when standing up

To make up

Join back and front Body sections together along side seams. Leave base and neck edge open for now. Stuff Body quite firmly. Sew Head sections together leaving base open, shaped edge is back of Head. Stuff firmly. Sew both sections of Beak together at sides, stuff lightly, pin to front of Duck's Head, pull top section of Beak to a point midway. Using image for guidance, sew Beak to Head. Insert safety eyes at this point either side of Beak. Now sew Head to Body, catching open base of head to open neck edge. Sew around a few times to make sure Head is steady and won't wobble. Now sew up base of Body adding more stuffing if needed before doing so. Aim to get base flattened. Take Wings and sew together in pairs, smaller on top of larger. Sew to sides of Body. Fold Tail in half, sew side seams and stuff lightly. Sew to back of Duck at base of Body. Sew side seams of Feet together, stuff as with Tail. Sew base of each foot. Take a needle threaded with yarn C

and run through from base of foot to widest part on two points, pull in slightly to give indentations for toes. Pin Feet in place on base of Body, angling outwards and making sure they let Duck stand. Sew side seams of Bonnet. Take frill and pin in place around front edge, gathering in fullness to form a brim. Gather back of Bonnet in slightly to fit head. Sew Flowers and Leaves to each side of Bonnet. Cut ribbon in half, attach one half to each side of Bonnet and tie in a bow under Duck's chin. Catch Bonnet to Duck's head with a few stitches to secure **LK**

knitwise

OUT FOR THE COUNT: With fluffy, textured yarns like this it can be very difficult to count your stitches and rows, so use a row counter to help you keep your place and keep a notebook by your side to mark off how many increase and decrease rows you've done.



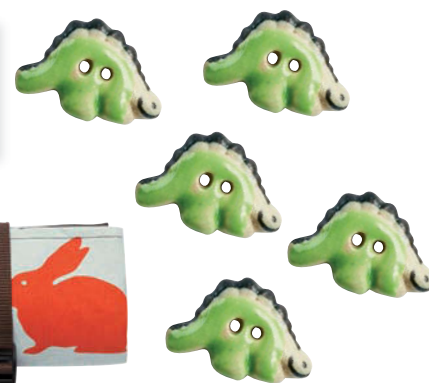
PIGGY BACK

Learn to crochet. This Little Piggy kit from Warm Pixie will help you do just that. £17.50, 0845 259 1359, www.notonthehighstreet.com



GO OUTDOORS

Get designer style. We love this adorable 'Kissing Bunny' print picnic blanket from Annabel James. £35.95, 0845 548 0210, www.annabeljames.co.uk



JURASSIC PARK

Button it! These fabulous ceramic stegosaurus buttons from Injabulo are Fairtrade! £4.95 for five, 01832 274881, www.injabulo.com

SHEEP SHAPE

Look after your needles. These sheepy point protectors from Clover come in two handy sizes to keep your dpns in tact. A set of two has an RRP of £8.50.

For stockists, email clover@stockistenquiries.co.uk



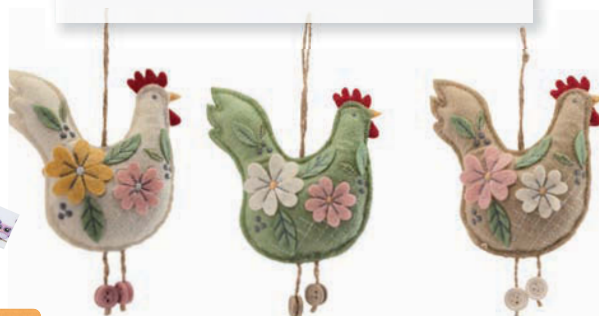
CHICK FLICK

Knit a feathered friend. These little chicks make cute covers for chocolate eggs. Buy a kit to make one chick. £5, www.edamay.com



OWL BE THERE

Start trimming. These charming ribbons feature a whole parliament of adorable owls! £1 per metre, 01258 455889, www.craftyribbons.com



HEN PARTY

Decorate for Easter. These pretty chickens by Gisela Graham are just the thing for your springtime display. £5 each, 0845 130 8229, www.tch.net



REALLY WILD SHOW

Make a house a home.

Tapir's are often overlooked in the world of furnishings, so we love this quirky cushion. £21, 0121 286 1830, www.bespo.co.uk

Animal MAGIC

We love this menagerie of cute critters!

Everyone has a favourite animal, and whether yours is found locally or somewhere more exotic, we've got a great pick of creature featuring goodies. There are so many animal kits and patterns, from sweet little pigs to Easter chicks, plus embellishments such as ribbon and buttons. Wildlife-inspired prints and projects have also made their way into homewares trends so you can decorate your abode with your choice of critter.



FANTASTIC MR FOX

Love the woodland trend. This handsome fox doorstep looks great and is practical too! £15.75, 0191 645 4004, www.hunkydoryhome.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORIES PATTERN

Sunny is a bright and cheery *cosy* set to protect your *glasses and e-reader*

With summer holidays on the horizon the book lovers among us will no doubt be looking forward to some holiday reading. E-readers are convenient and portable but need protection when travelling, as do glasses, so Tina Barrett has designed a matching set of cases that will cushion your gadgets and shades, and keep them free of dust and pesky finger prints. We have also included instructions to add a layer of lining to your cosies for extra safety.

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

E-reader case: 13.5cm x 19cm

Glasses case: 10cm x 19cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Rico Essentials Cotton DK, (A) shade 66 Pistachio, (B) shade 87 Pumpkin, (C) shade 63 Banana, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

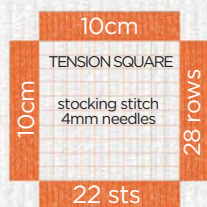
Buttons: large, one, small, assorted (optional)

Purse frame, sew-in 2.5cm x 10cm

Contrast material fat quarter

Sewing needle and thread

Matching embroidery thread



ABOUT THE YARN

Rico Essentials Cotton DK is made of 100% cotton. It's lightweight, machine washable, and gives great stitch definition. It is available in a number of pretty shades, including some new pastel colours.

Need an alternative yarn?

Wendy Supreme Luxury Cotton DK is also made from 100% cotton and is ideal for use throughout the year. It's relatively easy to work with, easy to care for and comes in a range of lovely colours.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88

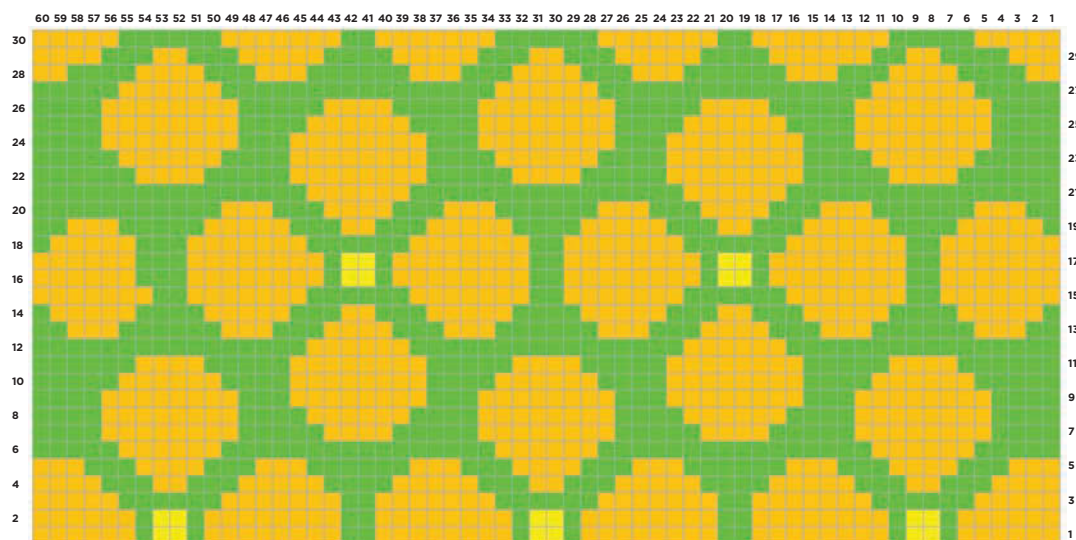


Rico Essentials Cotton DK costs £2.49 per 50g (130m) from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



Wendy Supreme Luxury Cotton DK costs £3.59 per 100g (201m) from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

E-READER COVER CHART



START KNITTING HERE

E-reader cover

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on 60 sts

□ Work ten rows in k2, p2 rib
Change to 4mm needles and yarn A

□ Work two rows in st st

□ Beg working from Row 1 of Chart

□ Work 30 rows of chart ending on a WS row. Work should meas approx 19cm

□ Change to yarn A and work two rows in st st

□ Cast off

To make up

Darn in loose ends and press piece lightly to even out stitches. Sew long seam and, making sure this seam lies at centre back of case, sew lower seam. Optional: sew a button at the centre of each flower

Glasses case

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 48 sts

□ Work ten rows in st st

□ Row 1: k14, work Row 1 of Glasses Chart, k14

□ Row 2: p14, work Row 2 of Glasses Chart, p14

□ Cont as set until all rows of chart have been completed

□ Work ten rows in st st

SHAPE TOP

□ Next row: k12, leave rem sts on a holder, turn and work on these sts only

□ Next row: p2tog, p to end. 11 sts

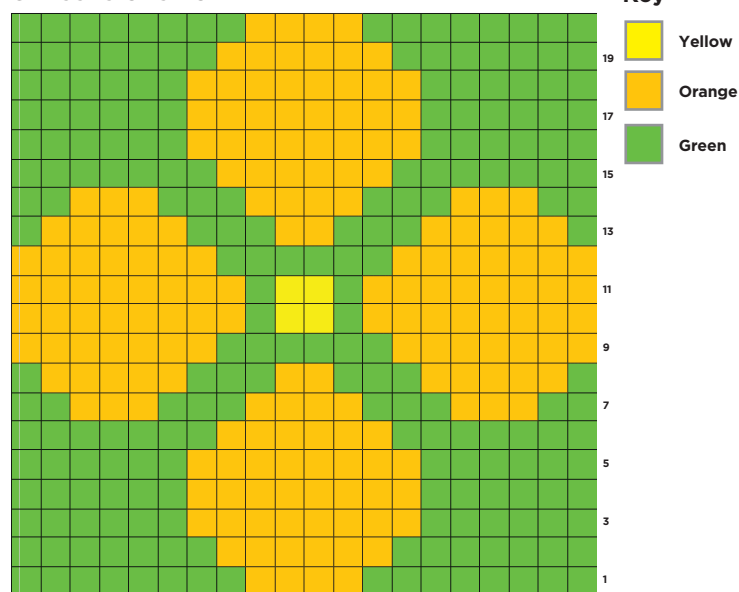
□ Next row: k

□ Rep these two rows until six sts rem

□ Cast off

□ With RS facing, rejoin yarn

GLASSES CASE CHART



Key



and k across next 24 sts, leave rem sts on holder

□ Next row: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 22 sts

□ Next row: k

□ Rep last two rows until 12 sts rem

□ Cast off

□ With RS facing, rejoin yarn and k across rem 12 sts

□ Next row: p to last two sts, p2tog. 11 sts

□ Next row: k

□ Rep last two rows until six sts rem

□ Cast off

FRILL

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on 30 sts

□ K three rows

□ P one row

□ Next row: kfb into each st. 60 sts

□ P one row

□ Work four rows in st st

□ K two rows

□ Cast off

To make up

Darn in loose yarn ends and press piece lightly. Sew long sides to make rear seam, make sure this lies at centre back of case. Sew short bottom seam. Using a sewing needle and yellow embroidery thread (approx 3 strands at a time), sew purse frame to body of case

LINING

Cut a piece of contrast fabric to 22cm x 22cm. Fold in half longwise with RS innermost, and stitch this seam using a 2.5cm seam allowance. Stitch lower seam. Drop lining inside case and turn down seam allowance at inside edge of purse mouth. Using sewing needle and matching thread, slip stitch lining to purse mouth just inside frame edge. Stitch frill onto front of purse along curve of purse frame. Optional: sew a button to centre of flower **LK**

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Inspiration STATION

Our round-up of what's hot in the knitting universe

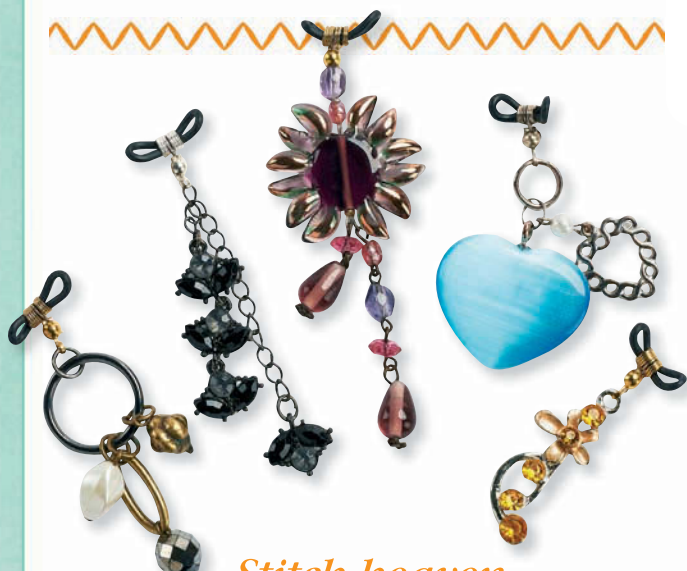
Sugar 'n' spice

Fans of British wool, rejoice! West Yorkshire Spinners has released a brand new signature 4ply yarn in solid shades. Choose from six sweet shop colours, and five inspired by herbs and spices. Go to www.wyspinners.com or call 01535 664500.



Truly scrumptious!

We absolutely adore Fyberspates Scrumptious Volume 3, which is packed full of cosy designs! Larigan by Amanda Crawford is a particular favourite, complete with big moss stitch cuffs and a beautiful all-over cable pattern. For more sumptuous new patterns from your favourite spinners, turn to p31. Scrumptious Collection Volume 3 costs £12 from 01829 732525, www.fyberspates.co.uk



Stitch heaven

Fall in love with these artisan stitch keepers by Jacqui Davidson, handcrafted from upcycled jewellery. Go to www.missdeefibredreams.folksy.com or call 07821 538609.



Warm and toasty

If you're a fan of all things British, you're sure to love the new shades of Baa Ram Ewe's Titus yarn, inspired by Yorkshire. 'Mild' is a ruby-brown shade which takes its name from classic pints of mild bitter, 'Bramley Baths' is a blue-green inspired by the historic Leeds swimming pool, and 'Filey' is a vintage yellow named for the popular seaside town. You can find patterns for the shades by Rachel Coopey in her new book, *Toasty*, which features ten designs in Titus. 0113 278 1788, www.baaramewe.co.uk



Tutti fruity

Bright and fruity shades will be all the rage this summer! That's why we were so excited to see these five new shades of one of our

favourite baby yarns, Peter Pan Merino Baby DK. The 100%

wool yarn is great for

kids, and comes with a

lively accompanying

pattern book. One

ball of 50g (116m)

yarn costs £3.59

from **01925 764231**,

www.blacksheep

wools.com

Did you know?

Jane Garvey will be finding out all about the weird wide world of knitting for Radio 4's A Gripping Yarn on 23rd April at 11.02am!



Knit local!

Here in the LK offices, we've been getting into the swing of our nationwide Love Your Yarn Shop campaign! The celebrations will all come to a head for Yarn Shop Day on Saturday 3rd May, when stores across the country will be

holding special workshops, discounts and other events. The campaign is supported by Cygnet, Sirdar, Coats Crafts, Stylecraft, James C. Brett and West Yorkshire Spinners. Go to **www.letsknit.co.uk** to find out more.



The wonders of Gawthorpe Hall

Miss Rachel Kay Shuttleworth was born in 1887, and during her lifetime at Gawthorpe Hall in Lancashire, she gathered one of the most significant needlecraft collections in the world. This February saw the launch of Miss Rachel's Craft House Patterns, five projects by top UK knitting designers who were inspired by Miss Rachel's collection. The designs include patterns by Debbie Bliss and Kate Davies, and can be downloaded for £3.25 each from **www.gawthorpetextiles.org.uk** or call **01282 773 963**.



Cascade of colour

*Hold on to your beanies, because Cascade 220 is now available to buy from Deramores! Available in over 150 different colours, the pure wool aran-weight yarn is hugely popular in the US, with over 116,000 projects logged on Ravelry alone. Prices start at £6.39. Head to **www.deramores.com** or call **0800 488 0708**.*

Charity of the Month

Knit For Peace

There's nothing we love more than cute toys and knitting for charity. So we're always thrilled to hear about new ways to combine the two! Children's disability charity Newlife is asking knitters to help raise money to run the Newlife Nurse Helpline. The service, on

0800 902 0095, provides valuable advice to support families of children with disabilities or terminal illnesses. Why not get your knitting group to make and sell the toys at local events in order to raise funds? Alternatively, send your creations directly to the charity to sell on your behalf. To get hold of the pattern, go to **www.letsknit.co.uk**, or contact the Newlife Community Fundraising Team on **0800 988 4640** or email **getcrafty@newlifecharity.co.uk**





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**EASY
LACE
TUNIC!**

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Claire by
Pat Menchini is a cool *cover-up*
that's perfect for *warm days*

Everyone needs a loose-fitting cover-up to throw on when the spring breeze feels chilly, and this kaftan-inspired design with lace panelling is just the thing. The lace work is relatively simple but looks very effective. The diamond motifs make it easy to see where your eyelets should be positioned as you work. However, if you're not confident with lace, you can use a lifeline; see our Knitwise panel on page 39 for how to do it.

START KNITTING ON P24

28 (28, 28, 28, 28, 28, 28)

10cm

TENSION SQUARE

stocking stitch
4mm needles

10cm

28 rows

22 sts

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88

24 www.letsknit.co.uk



These two rows set position of Right panel

□ Keeping position of Right panel correct, cont as set working Rows 3-22 of Right panel

□ Cont to rep Rows 1-22 of Right panel until work meas 63cm from beg, ending at front opening edge

□ Complete neck and shoulders as for Left half

Back

□ Work as Front to **

Change to 4mm needles

□ Beg with a k row work in st st until Back meas same as Front to shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

□ Loosely cast off 7 (8, 8, 9, 9, 10, 11) sts at beg of next six rows, then 8 (7, 10, 9, 11, 11, 10) sts at beg of next two rows. 43 (45, 45, 47, 49, 49, 51) sts Place rem sts on a holder

Sleeves

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 77 (81, 85, 89, 95, 99, 103) sts

□ K seven rows

Change to 4mm needles

□ Beg with a k row, work in st st until Sleeve meas 28cm from beg

□ Cast off loosely

Neckband

Join shoulder seams

□ Using 3.25mm needles and with RS facing, pick up and k 34 (35, 35, 38, 39, 39, 41) sts evenly around right front neck, k across back neck sts, pick up and k 34 (35, 35, 38, 39, 39, 41) sts evenly around left front neck. 111 (115, 115, 123, 127, 127, 133) sts

□ K six rows

□ Cast off evenly kwise

To make up

Placing centre of cast-off edge of Sleeve to shoulder seam, sew in Sleeves. Join side and sleeve seams.

Embroider a 'lazy daisy' flower around central eyelet on lace diamond motifs, using picture as a guide. Sew buttons to left front edge, then sew a buttonhole loop on opposite edge to correspond with each button **LK**



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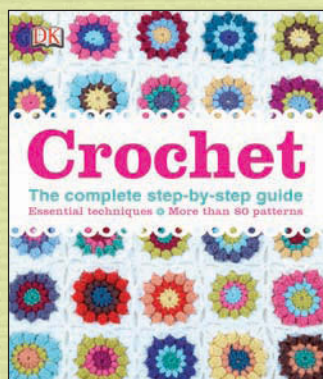
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THE Bookshelf

Our pick of this month's best knitty books, blogs and more



Crochet: The Complete Step-by-Step Guide



The Publishers of DK Books
(£25.00, Dorling Kindersley)

If you've ever considered learning crochet to complement your knitting, then we can think of no better companion than this comprehensive DK guide. The well-respected publishers have covered everything from the different types of yarns, to instructions for complex lace edgings, all with clear step-by-step instructions. It comes complete with over 80 patterns for toys, accessories, homewares and garments, so budding crochet enthusiasts won't be short of projects to practise on!

www.dk.co.uk



Once Upon A Knit



Genevieve Miller
(£12.07, Potter Craft)

In 2010, Genevieve Miller capitalised on the surge of supernatural romance and brought us Vampire Knits. Her next book, Once Upon A Knit, takes inspiration from fairytales, giving a wonderfully modern twist. The 28 beautiful projects are perfect for recapturing the imagination, turning well-loved stories into wearable projects. Choose from delicate frills to bring out your inner princess, or indulge your dark side with a witchy shawl in black lace.

www.crownpublishing.com
Read our interview with Genevieve on www.letsnit.co.uk



Stitch Mountain

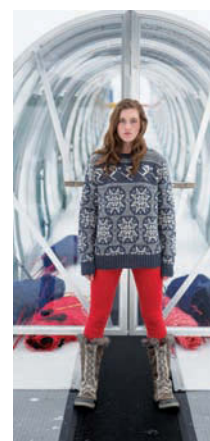


Laura Zander
(£12.05, Sixth & Spring Books)

Inspired by winter mountain sports such as skiing and snowboarding, Stitch Mountain is a book and campaign to get athletes to start making their own accessories. Each pattern is inspired by a different athlete, ranging from whimsical hats to cosy blankets.

With stunning photography by knitter and skier Brad Swonetz, and contributions by athletes such as Olympian Edie Thys Morgan, the passion for knitting and winter sports is infectious. This lively book that will leave you unsure what to pick up next – your needles or your ski boots.

www.thegmcgroup.com



WE ALSO Love...



Make it Coats
www.makeitcoats.com

Coats is the distributor of well-loved brands such as Rowan and Patons. Its newly relaunched website is a hive of crafty knowledge and activity – be sure to check it out!



Dyeabolical
www.dyeabolicalyarns.blogspot.com

Rachel, owner of Dyeabolical Yarns, specialises in incredible hand-dyed wool. Her blog features her own knitting inspiration, as well as various projects completed by her customers.



KEY:



Book



Website



Podcast



Blog



App

LET'S KNIT GARMENT PATTERN

Safari by Bergere de France uses *Fair Isle techniques* to create a wonderful colour effect

This striking short-sleeved cardigan is a flattering cover up for the spring season.

It has a loose fit and is fastened at the front with a faux leather buckle. The colourwork effect is worked across the bottom section on both the fronts and the back - you are shaping at the same time, so take a look at our Knitwise panel (overleaf) and pay close attention to which stitch in the Chart row you begin and end on for your size.

START KNITTING ON P28

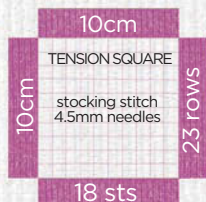
COOL
COLOUR
WORK
EFFECT

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Size:	S-M	(L-XL)
Actual chest (cm):	104	(120)
Length from shoulder (cm):	56	(60)

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Bergere de France Eclipse, (A) shade 244.531 Vénus, 6 (7) 50g balls, (B) shade 244.641 Jupiter, (C) shade 244.811 Mercure, 2 (3) 50g balls of each
Needles: 4mm, 4.5mm
Fastener: faux leather, 20mm, Bergere de France, ref: 41879



ABOUT THE YARN

Bergere de France Eclipse is a blend of 73% acrylic, 20% cotton and 7% polyester. It has a coloured thread plied with a white base shade and a twist of sparkle. It knits to a light aran tension and can be machine washed.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Bergere de France Eclipse costs £3.90 per 50g (89m) ball from 0845 838 3762, www.intoknit.co.uk

knitwise

SHAPING UP The armhole shapings begin whilst you are working the colour chart, so you will need to incorporate the increased stitches into the charted design. For example, on the back you are increasing at each end of the row. On the following row, work one additional Chart stitch at each end of the row.

STRIPED MOSS ST

Keeping moss st patt correct, work as folls:

- 12 (16) rows in yarn A
- 26 rows in yarn C
- 26 rows in yarn B
- Six rows in yarn A

START KNITTING HERE

Back

Using 4mm needles and yarn A cast on 95 (109) sts
 □ Row 1: k1, * p1, k1, rep from * to end
 This row sets moss st
 □ Rep Row 1 once more
 Change to 4.5mm needles
 □ Beg with a k row, work in st st until work meas 3.5 (5.5) cm, ending after a WS row
 □ Next row (RS): beg on 2nd (1st) st of Chart and reading

from right to left, rep Chart across row ending on 24th (13th) st

□ Next row (WS): beg on 24th (13th) st of Chart and reading from left to right, rep Chart across row ending on 2nd (1st) st

These two rows set positioning of Chart patt

□ Cont to work Chart until Row 64 has been completed, then cont in st st using yarn A only **AT THE SAME TIME** when work meas 15cm ending after a WS row, shape armholes as folls:

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Work incs as folls, using background colour for first and last two sts of row and incorporating extra sts into patt:

□ Next row (RS): k2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, k2. 97 (111) sts

□ Keeping st st and Chart patt correct, inc as set on every foll fourth row 6 (8) times, then on every RS row 9 (7) times. 127 (141) sts

□ Cast on two sts at beg of foll six rows. 139 (153) sts

□ Cont without shaping until work meas 53 (57) cm, ending after a RS row

□ Next row (WS): patt 42 (47), pm, patt 55 (59), pm, patt to end
 Sts between markers are neck sts

SHAPE SHOULDERS AND NECK

□ Cast off 10 (11) sts at beg of next 4 (2) rows, then 11 (12) sts at beg of foll 2 (4) rows

AT THE SAME TIME on fifth shoulder cast-off row, beg working in moss st over centre 55 (59) sts between markers
 □ When shaping is complete, cast off rem 77 (83) sts

Left front

*** Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 48 (55) sts

FIRST SIZE ONLY

□ Row 1 (RS): * k1, p1, rep from * to end
 □ Row 2: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
 Rows 1-2 set moss st

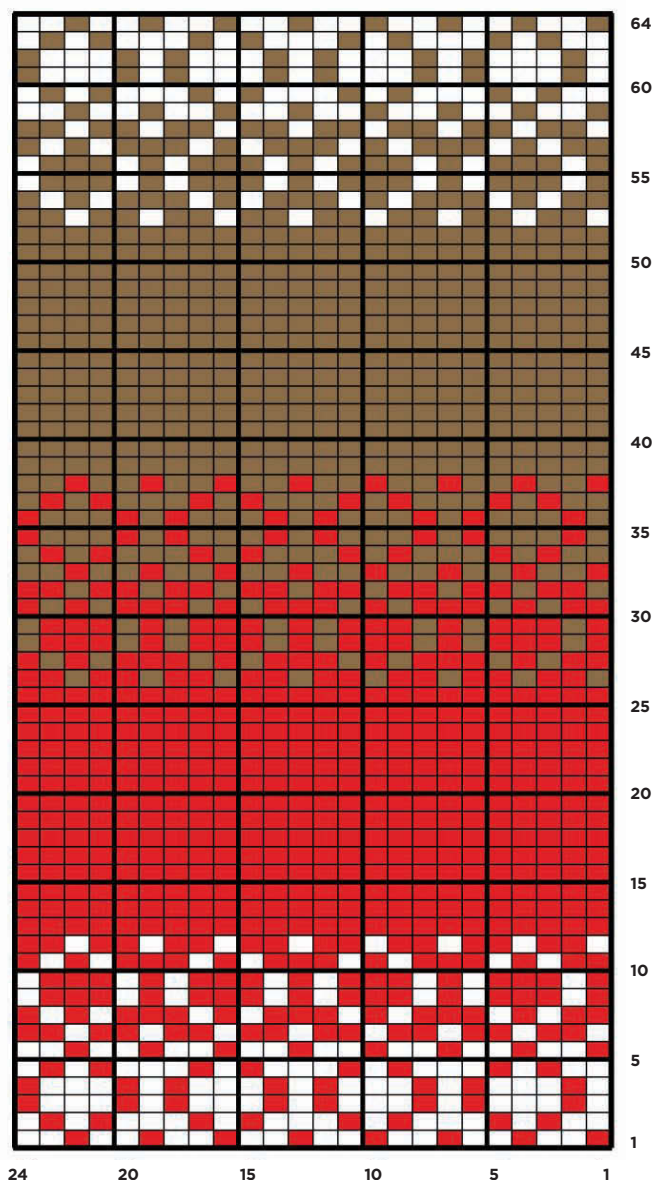
SECOND SIZE ONLY

□ Row 1 (RS): k1, * p1, k1, rep from * to end
 Row 1 sets moss st
 □ Row 2: as Row 1

ALL SIZES

Change to 4.5mm needles ***
 □ Row 1 (RS): k45 (52), work three sts in Striped moss st
 □ Row 2: work three sts in Striped moss st, p45 (52)
 These two rows set st st with Striped moss st border
 □ Beg with a k row, work in st st with Striped moss st border until work meas 3.5 (5.5) cm, ending after a WS row
 □ Next row (RS): beg on 2nd (1st) st of Chart and reading from right to left, rep Chart to last three sts, ending on 22nd (4th) st, work three sts in Striped moss st
 □ Next row (WS): work three sts in Striped moss st, beg on 22nd (4th) st of Chart and reading Chart from left to right, rep

CHART



Key



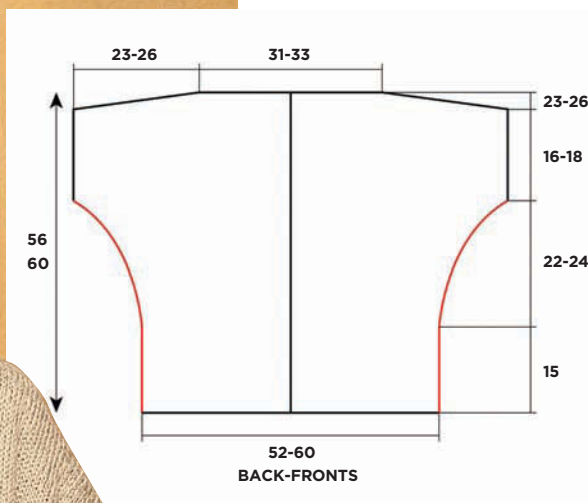


Chart across row, ending on 2nd (1st) st

□ Cont to work Chart until Row 64 has been completed, then cont in yarn A only working in st st with Striped moss st border **AT THE SAME TIME** when work meas 15cm ending after a WS row, shape armhole as folls:

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Keeping st st and Striped moss st border correct, using background colour for first two sts and incorporating incs into patt, work as folls:

- Next row (RS): k2, m1, patt to end. 49 (56) sts
- Keeping st st, Chart patt and Striped moss st border correct, inc as set on every foll fourth row 6 (8) times, then on every RS row 9 (7) times. 64 (71) sts
- Cast on two sts at beg of foll three RS rows. 70 (77) sts
- Cont without shaping until work meas 53 (57) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDER AND NECK

- Cast off 10 (11) sts at beg of next row, then 10 (12) sts at beg of foll alt row, then 11 (12) sts at beg of foll alt row **AT THE SAME TIME** on third shoulder dec, beg working last 28 (30) sts in moss st as for first size
- When shaping is complete, work as folls:
- Patt one row
- Cast off rem 39 (42) sts

Right front

- Rep from *** to *** of Left front
- Row 1 (RS): work three sts in Striped moss st, k45 (52)

□ Row 2 (WS): p45 (52), work three sts in Striped moss st These two rows set st st with Striped moss st border

□ Beg with a k row, work in st st with Striped moss st border until work meas 3.5 (5.5) cm, ending after a WS row

□ Next row (RS): work three sts in Striped moss st, beg on 22nd (4th) st of Chart and reading from right to left, rep Chart across row, ending on 18th (7th) st

□ Next row (WS): beg on 18th (7th) st of Chart and reading Chart from left to right, rep Chart to last three sts, ending on 22nd (4th) st, work three sts in Striped moss st

□ Cont to work Chart until Row 64 has been completed, then cont in yarn A only working in st st with Striped moss st border **AT THE SAME TIME** when work meas 15cm ending after a WS row, shape armhole as folls:

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Keeping st st and Striped moss st border correct, using background colour for last two sts and incorporating incs into patt, work as folls:

- Next row (RS): patt to last two sts, m1, k2. 49 (56) sts
- Keeping st st, Chart patt and Striped moss st border correct, inc as set on every foll fourth row 6 (8) times, then on every RS row 9 (7) times. 64 (71) sts
- Cast on two sts at beg of next row (WS) and foll two WS rows. 70 (77) sts
- Cont without shaping until work meas 53 (57) cm, ending after a RS row

SHAPE SHOULDER AND NECK

- Cast off 10 (11) sts at beg of next row, then 10 (12) sts at beg of foll alt row, then 11 (12) sts at beg of foll alt row **AT THE SAME TIME** on row before third shoulder dec, beg working first 28 (30) sts in moss st as for first size
- When shaping is complete, work as folls:
- Cast off rem 39 (42) sts

To make up

Join 42 (47) stitches for shoulder seams. Sew side seams as shown by red line on schematic. Attach fastener and sew in place **LK**



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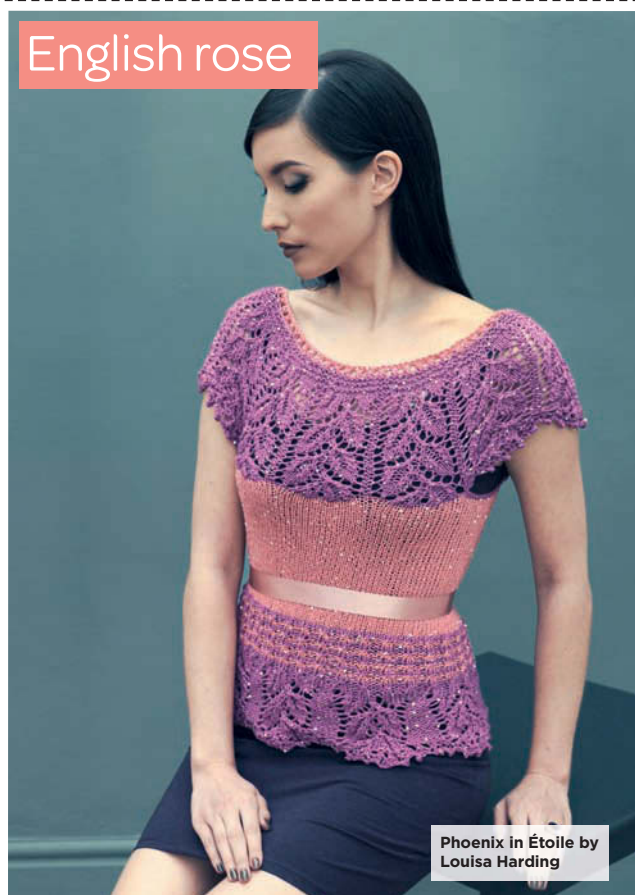
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SPRING HAS *sprung!*

Find out what's new for the
spring/summer season 2014

Pattern 17 in Magazine
172 by Begere de France

English rose



Phoenix in Étoile by
Louisa Harding



Delilah in
Noema
by Louisa
Harding

Louisa Harding's designer yarns are always a joy to behold, and her two newest releases are no different. **Étoile** (featured left) is a 70% cotton yarn with a sparkly cord at its heart, available in 12 luxurious shades. **Noema** (featured above) is a range of ten funky yarns which ply together two bright and cheerful strands of varying thickness, to create an unusual marled effect. Find Étoile and Noema at www.stashfineyarns.com, or call 01244 389310.

There's nothing more exciting than the moment when new season yarns hit the shelves. Not only can you delight in the luscious new colours and textures on offer, but it's also the perfect opportunity to start planning your knits for next season. Will you go for delicate lace, cosy cardigans or superchunky openwork knits? Whatever your skill level, you're sure to find something to inspire you.

French connections

Bergere de France is releasing two new yarns this season, including the light summer tweed, **Bigarelle** (featured above). The linen, cotton and viscose blend yarn is part of a strong trend towards adaptable and breathable linen. Meanwhile, **Estivale** is an acrylic, hemp and polyester yarn featuring subtle sequins for a sparkly summer look. As ever, the new yarns come accompanied by sumptuous patterns for adults and children. Get new yarns and patterns from Bergere de France by calling 01273 508768, www.cocoonknits.co.uk

Top trend:
linen

Turn over for more springspiration!

Lap of luxury

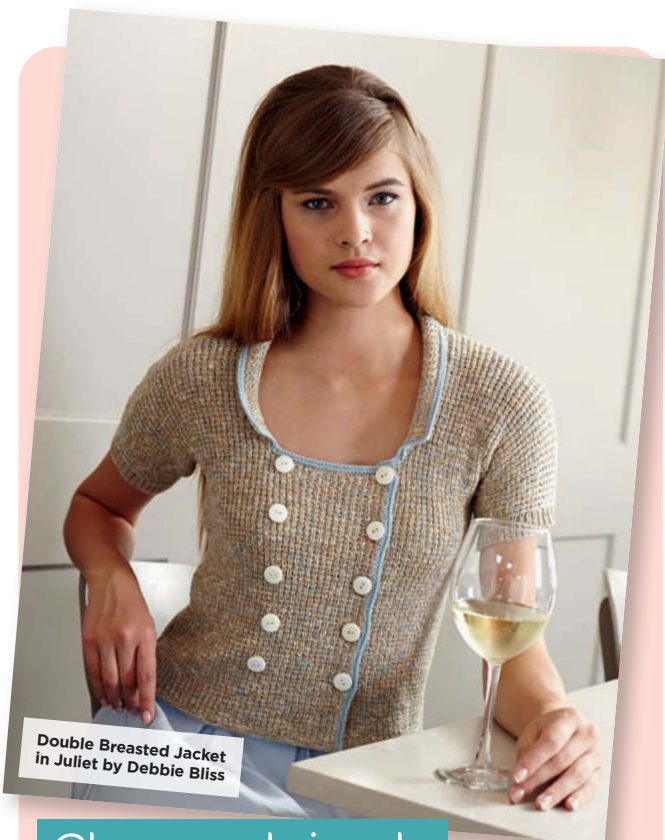
Rowan is launching three new yarns this season, and as ever they are accompanied by a whole range of delectable patterns.

Truesilk (featured right) is a delicious mulberry silk chainette yarn with 50s-inspired patterns by Martin Storey.

Silkstones is a linen and toussah silk blend with a light bouclé construction and a delightful sheen reminiscent of wet stones. Finally, **Pure Linen** cashes in on the season's must-have fibre with eight natural shades. Get the full range of new Rowan yarns and patterns from **0117 300 5211**, www.getknitted.com



Tourmaline from Truesilk Collection by Martin Storey for Rowan Yarns



Double Breasted Jacket in Juliet by Debbie Bliss

Wish upon a star

New from Stylecraft is **Stars**, an acrylic and polyester yarn with sequins and a sparkly metallic thread – the perfect answer to this season's trend for all that glitters. It's available in six spring shades from light pastels to dramatic purple, with accompanying patterns for adults and children. For stockists, go to www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk or call **01535 609798**.

Top trend:
sparkles

Pattern 8949 in Stars by Stylecraft



Clean and simple

Inspired by stylish shapes for a classic look, the new collections from Debbie Bliss are simply captivating. **Mia** is a new wool/cotton blend yarn in 16 fashionable colours which is extremely versatile with a great stitch definition. However, it is summer tweed yarn **Juliet** (featured above) which has captured our imagination. The cotton and acrylic yarn features four coloured threads twisted together to create a gorgeous mottled effect. There's no need for fancy stitches with such a beautiful yarn, so even beginners can fall in love with it. New Debbie Bliss yarns and patterns are available from **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com



Sakura Sweater from Favourites by Noro

Spun for summer

There are three new releases from Noro this season, including the relaunch of **Taiyo** and **Silk Garden** (featured above), both of which come in the distinctive self-stripping Noro style. **Kibou** is a new DK yarn made from cotton, wool and silk. Get all three from **01244 389310**, www.stashfineyarns.com

Colour
watch:
peach

Lovely Lang

Releasing a whopping ten new yarns this season, Lang have the whole range of trends covered, including tape yarns, linen, and cotton. **Laguna** (featured right) is a silk and viscose blend ribbon yarn, while others include the chunky multicoloured chainette **Maui**, and the semi-transparent tubular yarn **Seraina**. Find them all at **01529 240510**, www.art yarn.co.uk



Pattern 23 from Fatto a Mano Collection 205 by Lang Yarns



Pheasant in Country Birds
by Anniken Allis for West
Yorkshire Spinners

Good enough to eat!

West Yorkshire Spinners has released **Signature 4ply**, much to the delight of British wool fans everywhere! The 75% wool, 25% nylon yarn is not only perfect for socks, but could also be used to create stunning knits with intricate stitch patterns. The yarn comes in six sweet-shop inspired shades, as well as five from the spice rack for a more grown-up look. The spinner has also released **Country Birds**, a brand new pattern collection from top designers Anniken Allis and Julie Ferguson, using the 100% Bluefaced Leicester yarn in aran and DK weights. Go to www.wyspinners.com for stockists, or call 01535 664500.



**Crochet Top from
Cotton Collection
Book 359 by Wendy**

Wonderful Wendy

There is a whole selection of new candy-coloured shades being added to Wendy's **Supreme Cotton** range this spring. With yarns available in 4ply, DK and Chunky weights, it is an essential collection for any spring wardrobe – we just love the crochet top in the new Peach and Peppermint 4ply shades (featured above).

PLUS: TB Ramsden has also released two new hat kit yarns, complete with pompom and pattern instructions all in one ball! **Wendy Duo** is a tweedy acrylic and mohair blend, while **Peter Pan Hatti** is somewhat furrier affair. Fantastic for kids and beginners!

Get new shades of Supreme Cotton and the two new hat yarns from 07974 954663, www.awoollytail.com



To the beach!

Spanish spinner Katia has released a huge range of new yarns – the most exciting being **Big Ribbon** (bag, featured), a mega chunky yarn in a rainbow of colours which will be ideal for quickly creating stylish accessories. There are 13 other new yarns in a variety of fibres and colours. We're particularly fond of **Tahiti** (garment, featured) a 100% mercerised cotton tape yarn. Go to www.katia.com for stockists.



*Top trend:
ribbon
yarns*

**Pattern 35 from
Woman 77 by Katia**

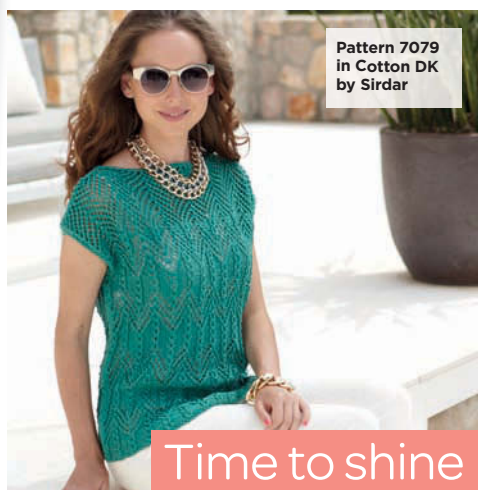
Fashion forward

There are several exciting new fashion yarns from Rico this spring, and the European spinner continues to create innovative designs. Our favourites include **Fashion Pixel DK** (featured right), a cotton and polyester blend with neon threads creating flashes of different colours, inspired by computer technology. We were equally enchanted by **Creative Cotton Print Aran**, a multicoloured 100% cotton yarn which produces an explosion of colour. As cotton yarns, they are both ideal for knitting and crochet projects alike. Get these and more from www.woolwarehouse.co.uk, 0800 505 3300

*Colour
watch:
turquoise*



**Pattern 249 from Knitting
Idea Compact by Rico Design**



**Pattern 7079
in Cotton DK
by Sirdar**

Time to shine

There are three new yarns from Sirdar this spring, including **Cotton DK** (featured above), a simple but stylish mercerised cotton yarn which will create stunning knitted and crocheted items. **Soukie DK** is an exquisite party yarn, with sparkly and solid shades twisted together and smattered with sequins. **Hush** is a fluffy mohair-blend lace yarn with just a touch of glitter, and looks simply beautiful when knitted on larger needles. Go to www.sirdar.co.uk to find a stockist near you, or call 01924 371501.



**Pattern 3887 in
Popsicle by
King Cole**

Oh lolly, lollipop!

King Cole Popsicle is a wonderful bouclé yarn in sugary shades taken straight from a sweet shop! Made with 84% cotton and available in eight variegated colourways, the fluffy yarn is perfect for kids and adults alike. Go to www.yarnpile.co.uk to pick up a ball for yourself.



Spring into Summer

with the new seasons must haves!



Luxury yarns



Colourmart has a huge selection of yarns which are ideal for any spring and summer project! Why not knit an elegant lace shawl from a cashmere and merino blend? Alternatively, try using a light 4ply made from luxurious cotton, merino, angora, viscose and cashmere. The yarns are all available in fashionable summer colours, either as cones or skeins, and they are all delightful to touch.

Head to www.colourmart.com for more information.

New Kits



The Little Knitting Company has some gorgeous new kits for you, including a seasonal offering, Easter Chick Egg Cosies Kit, a cute little family of Babushkas, Russian Doll Egg Cosies Kit, and some fun-loving little bugs, Juggling Ladybirds Kit. Each kit comprises the yarn, needles, pattern and instructions to guide you happily through the project from start to finish. Kits start at £12.95. To explore the kits further please visit: www.tlkc.co.uk Tel: 01367 710362.

British Alpaca

Known as one of the 'noble fibres', alpaca fleeces create some of the softest yarns around – and at UK Alpaca there is the added benefit of knowing that those fleeces were all farmed, graded and processed right here in Britain!



Look out for two new yarns this spring, including a gorgeously soft baby alpaca/silk blend DK yarn in five pastel shades, and a brand new baby alpaca/merino yarn which is available in DK, aran and 4ply. Plus get started on our brand new must have "Mums Knit" pattern book, consisting of 23 wonderful patterns. Find out more at www.ukalpaca.com

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE HOMEWARES PATTERN

Clutch is a collection of *pretty knitted* eggs to get in the Easter spirit

Whether you have a special tree dedicated to Easter trimmings, or you like to organise Easter hunts in your back garden, *Clutch* adds a hint of spring magic to your celebrations. Hide eggs in secret locations for your little ones to find, then have them trade for a chocolate version. Designed by Jane Burns, these pastel eggs showcase three seasonal designs using colourwork techniques. For tutorials on stranded colourwork, visit www.letsknit.co.uk

QUICK
KNIT
EASTER
TREATS!



"The egg is worked in the round using stranded colourwork. The chart and written instructions should be viewed side by side. One chart repeat is worked on each dpn."

LK DESIGNER JANE BURNS

START KNITTING ON P36

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Circumference: 20cm
Height excluding hanging loop: 9cm
loop: 9cm

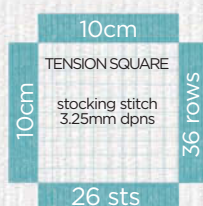
KNIT KIT

Yarn: James C. Brett Pure Merino DK, (A) shade 6 Lilac, (B) shade 4 White, (C) shade 2 Pink, (D) shade 12 Blue, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm double-pointed, set of five

Tapestry needle

Buttons: small, eight
Safety toy stuffing



ABOUT THE YARN

James C. Brett Pure Merino DK is a beautifully soft yarn made from 100% merino wool. Its lovely pastel shade range is perfect for spring knits, and to top it off – it's machine washable! (Although we don't advise machine washing these eggs.)

Need an alternative yarn?

Peter Pan Baby Merino DK is a cost-effective pure merino wool. It's easy care and smooth to handle. We recommend using shades White, Pink, Blue and Lilac as accurate colour matches.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



James C. Brett Pure Merino DK costs £3.89 per 50g (124m) ball from www.purpleindacrafts.co.uk



Peter Pan Baby Merino DK costs £3.95 per 50g (116m) ball from 0800 013 0150, www.sewandso.co.uk

START KNITTING HERE

Easter bunny egg

Using 3.25mm dpns and yarn A, cast on 16 sts evenly over four dpns, join into the round, taking care not to twist

NOTE: work from Easter Bunny Chart but foll written instructions below for shaping:

- Rnd 1: k
- Rnd 2: (k1, m1, k2, m1, k1) four times. 24 sts
- Rnds 3-4: k (cont to foll chart throughout)
- Rnd 5: (k1, m1, k4, m1, k1) four times. 32 sts
- Rnds 6-7: k
- Rnd 8: (k1, m1, k6, m1, k1) four times. 40 sts
- Rnds 9-10: k
- Rnd 11: (k1, m1, k8, m1, k1) four times. 48 sts
- Rnds 12-21: k
- Rnd 22: (k1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k1) four times. 40 sts
- Rnd 23: k
- Rnd 24: (k1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1) four times. 32 sts
- Rnd 25: k
- Rnd 26: (k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1) four times. 24 sts
- Rnd 27: k
- Rnd 28: (k1, ssk, k2tog, k1)



four times. 16 sts

□ Rnd 29: k

□ Rnd 30: (ssk, k2tog) four times. Eight sts

□ Cut yarn and draw tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off.

Using yarn C, work a bullion stitch (see Knitwise) to form nose. Sew on whiskers using yarn B and image as guide. Attach buttons as eyes

Striped Egg

□ Work as Easter Bunny Egg using Striped Egg Chart

Cracked Egg

□ Work as Easter Bunny Egg using yarn C from rows 1-10, work Cracked Egg Chart, work rows 22-30 using yarn C

To make up

□ Make a hanging loop with a single strand of yarn at top of egg. Stuff from bottom, taking care not to over stuff, and use

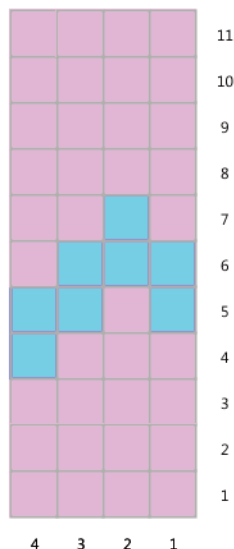
a running stitch around edge at base of egg, pull tight and fasten. Weave in ends **LK**

knitwise

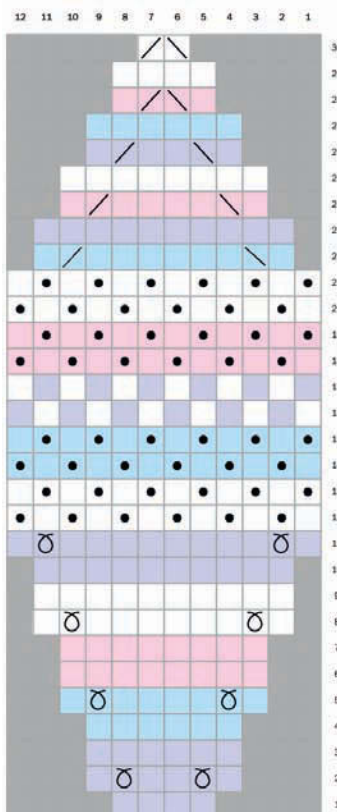
BULLION STITCH

To give your Easter bunny egg a nose, thread your darning needle with yarn C and start by bringing the needle through to the front of the knitting. Put it back into the work where it came out and make a short stitch, but do not pull the needle through. Wrap the yarn around the needle five times. Press your thumb on the wrapped needle to hold the yarn firmly in place and pull the needle through the egg and wraps. Gently pull the stitch tight and take your needle back into the egg where it first came through.

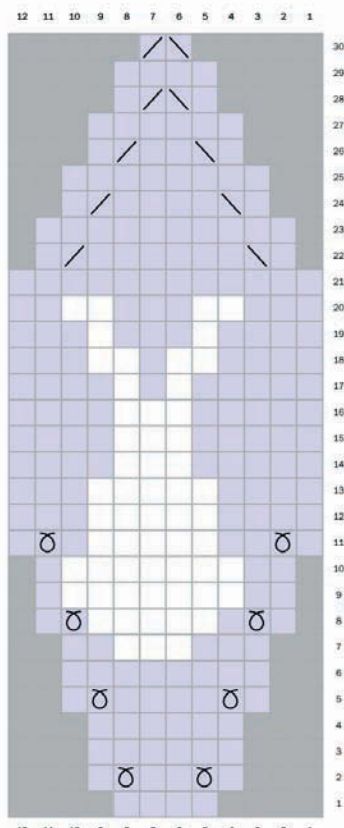
CRACKED EGG CHART



STRIPED EGG CHART



EASTER BUNNY CHART



Key

- yarn C
- yarn B
- yarn A
- yarn D
- knit
- M1
- ssk
- k2tog
- purl
- grey no stitch

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Darn it!

Snagged your favourite pair of knitted socks or worn out the thumb in your best mittens? Fear not! Hemline's range of essential darning tools include a darning mushroom, strong darning wool and hand needles that will help make your repairs a piece of cake! Email groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk to find a stockist near you.



Plump it up!

Mrs Moon has just launched its first ever exclusive yarn! Plump is a roving-style super chunky yarn that's made from superfine Australian NewMerino®. This means the farmers who herd the sheep meet strict criteria of high animal welfare standards and environmentally sustainable farming. Although the fibres originate abroad, they are spun and dyed in Yorkshire. There are 14 colourways, all named after sweets and desserts! Until the 31st March you can get your hands on Plump for the introductory price of £14.99 per 100g (70m) skein. To buy online and find pattern support, visit www.mrsmoon.co.uk



Hello, Dolly!

Teach the kids to knit with this brilliant doll kit from Bergere de France. Make a girly outfit for Nina, a smiling fabric doll. The kit comes complete with doll, yarn, buttons and full instructions. Get yours for £11.95 from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com



Embellish your knits with brand new vintage-inspired trims from 01258 455889, www.craftyribbons.com



PICK from the LK blog!

We caught up with knitter, designer and first-time author, Jessica Biscoe, who shared her expertise on setting up an online business. In her guest blog, Jess gives

practical advice from tax and pricing, to developing your brand and products, and social networking. Read more at www.letsknit.co.uk

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERN

Honeybee is a simply stunning *lace* *shawl* by Jan Henley

KNIT
LACE

IN
4 PLY

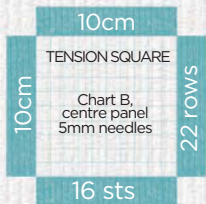
There's something about lace shawls that makes us quiver with excitement and this is a beautiful example from Jan Henley. Experienced lace knitters may prefer to work two identical pieces, each consisting of a lower border and a central pattern with just 17 repeats. These can then be grafted together using Kitchener stitch and will give you identical matching ends when worn. See our Knitwise panel on page 41 for how to use a lifeline when knitting – it will be your best friend if you make a mistake!

START KNITTING ON P40

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES
Size: 50cm x 213cm after blocking

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Rowan Fine Art, shade 301
Serin, two 100g skeins
Needles: 5mm, 6mm
Stitch markers
Tapestry needle



ABOUT THE YARN

Rowan Fine Art blends 45% wool, 20% mohair, 10% silk and 25% polyamide to create a soft and luxurious 4ply yarn. The silks adds a subtle sheen, while the synthetic fibre adds strength. It comes in 14 variegated colourways. It should be hand washed.

Need an alternative yarn? If you'd prefer a solid shade, try King Cole Merino Blend 4ply. It's a pure wool yarn that comes in 25 pastel and bright shades. It is machine washable but we recommend washing lace items by hand. You will need five balls of this yarn.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Rowan Fine Art costs £15.95 per 100g (400m) skein from 0131 558 1747, www.mcadirect.com



King Cole Merino Blend 4ply costs £3.69 per 50g (180m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com
For 10% off all orders at Loveknitting turn to the inside front cover



START KNITTING HERE

Shawl

Using 6mm needles, cast on 70 sts using cable cast on method
Change to 5mm needles
Row 1: wyif sl 1 pwise, yb, k to end
Rep last row nine times
Work Rows 1-8 of Chart A five times rep sts within red lines a total of ten times across row
Next row: work 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A, pm, k48, pm, work last 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A
Last row sets position of right and left borders with central section in garter st
Cont as set working Rows 2-8 of Chart A over first and last 11 sts of row AT THE SAME TIME k central 48 sts between markers

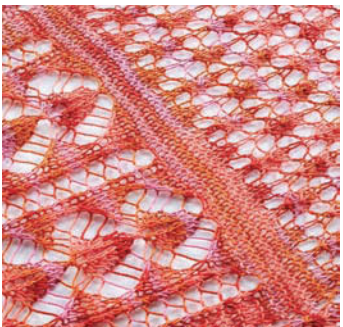
CENTRAL PATT

Keeping borders correct, commence Honeybee patt as folls
Next row: work 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A (Right border), work Row 1 of Chart B rep sts within thick red lines twice across row, work 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A (Left border)

CHART A - Lower Border & Transition

Chart A grid showing stitch patterns for rows 1-8. Includes symbols for knit, purl, and various stitch markers.

NOTE: All odd-numbered rows are worked from right to left and are right side rows; All even-numbered rows are worked from left to right and are wrong side rows for both Charts.



This detail shows the transition between the lower border and the main section

CHART B - Centre Panel

Chart B grid showing stitch patterns for rows 1-8. Includes symbols for knit, purl, and various stitch markers.

Key

- Key symbols and their meanings: K on RS, p on WS; Yfwd/ym; Ssk on RS, p2tog tbi on WS; Wyif sl 1 pwise; K on WS, p on RS; K2tog on RS, p2tog on WS; Sl 2, k1, p2sso; Pfb; No stitch i.e. the stitch does not exist and is only shown for charting purposes.

knitwise

USING A LIFELINE: Every time you have completed a full eight-row pattern repeat and have checked it's correct, thread a length of smooth cotton yarn through all the stitches on your needle. This is your lifeline. Carry on knitting the next pattern section. If you make a mistake, you can just whip out your needles and unravel back to your lifeline, safe in the knowledge that anything before then is fine and dandy.



"At this time of year the spring bulbs and blossom make joyful colours and you start to hear the buzz of bees as they go about their work. This openwork lace shawl is light to wear yet will keep you warm if the temperature drops"

LK DESIGNER JAN HENLEY

□ Cont to work borders as set using first and last 11 sts of Chart A **AT THE SAME TIME** work next row of Chart B over central 48 sts, until Chart B has been completed a total of 35 times

LOWER BORDER

- Next row: work 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A, k48, work 11 sts from Row 1 of Chart A
- Cont as set working Rows 2-8 of Chart A over first and last 11 sts of row **AT THE SAME TIME** k central 48 sts between markers
- Work Rows 1-8 of Chart A five times rep sts within red lines a total of ten times across row
- Row 1: wyif sl 1 pwise, yb, k to end
- Rep last row nine times
- Change to 6mm needles
- Cast off loosely **LK**

coming nextissue

KELLY MENZIES IVY LACE TOP

Issue 79 of Let's Knit on sale Friday 11th April



Dress and necklace from a selection at New Look

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MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Mittens:

Length: 17cm

Width at wrist: 7cm

Hat:

Diameter: 26cm

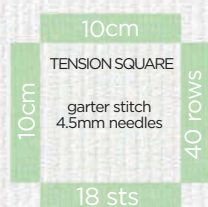
KNIT KIT

Yarn: Rowan Summerspun, shade 122 Greenwich, hat: two 50g balls, gloves: one 50g ball

Needles: 4.5mm circular (40cm), 4.5mm double-pointed

Tapestry needle

Stitch markers



ABOUT THE YARN

Rowan Summerspun is a beautiful yarn which is created by lightly twisting together printed cotton and melange wool threads. It creates a stunning variegated effect in 12 soft, natural shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

For a solid shade that is still light to wear, try **James C. Brett Cotton On DK**. This 50% cotton and 50% acrylic blend comes in 16 simple, springtime shades.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Rowan Summerspun costs £5.75 per 50g (120m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com
For 10% off all orders at **LoveKnitting**, turn to the inside front cover

James C. Brett Cotton On DK costs £1.95 per 50g (145m) ball from www.knittyknittybangbang.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERNS

Vionette is an *enchanting* hat and gloves *set* by *Kelly Menzies*

This stylish set features an eye-catching diagonal lace pattern paired with simple garter stitch. The two together call to mind deep blue seas and gentle waves, so they will certainly put you in the mood for a holiday! (Or, perhaps, they will simply make you look a little more favourably on those April showers.) If you are unsure about knitting lace, check out how to use a lifeline or draw your own chart on pages 24 and 39.



knitwise

BACKWARD-LOOP CAST ON:

This is an incredibly easy casting on method which is perfect for adding stitches to your work in the middle of a row, as used in Vionette.

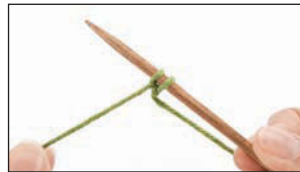
Step 1: Wrap the working yarn around thumb and hold yarn taught



Step 2: Insert needle underneath strand in front of thumb to make a loop on needle



Step 3: Remove thumb and pull working yarn tight



Repeat Steps 1-3 until enough stitches have been cast on.

START KNITTING HERE

HAT

Using 4.5mm circular needle, cast on 96 sts, pm and join in the round being careful not to twist sts

□ Rnd 1: * p3, k1, rep from * for 48 sts, p to end

□ Rnd 2: * p3, k1, rep from * for 48 sts, k to end

□ Rep Rnds 1-2 until you have worked 3cm from cast-on edge

MAIN PATTERN

□ Rnd 1: p2, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to end

□ Rnd 2: k

□ Rnd 3: p1, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to end

□ Rnd 4: k

□ Rnd 5: (k2tog, yfwd, k2) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to end

□ Rnd 6: k to last st, slip st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm

□ Rep Rnds 5-6 until work meas 15.5cm from cast-on edge

DECREASING FOR CROWN

NOTE: change to dpns when there are too few sts to fit comfortably on circular needle

□ Rnd 1: (k2tog, yfwd, k2) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to last st, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm

□ Rnd 2: * k2tog, k6, rep from * to last eight sts, k2tog, k5, slip st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm. 84 sts

□ Rnd 3: (k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k1) five times, k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yrn, p to end

□ Rnd 4: k to last st, slip st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm
□ Rnd 5: work as for Rnd 3
□ Rnd 6: k3, k2tog, * k5, k2tog, rep from * to last two sts, k1, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm. 72 sts

□ Rnd 7: (k2tog, yfwd, k1) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to end
□ Rnd 8: k to last st, slip st to RH needle, rm, place st back

on to LH needle, pm
 □ Rnd 9: (k2tog, yfwd, k1) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to last st, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm
 □ Rnd 10: * k2tog, k4, rep from * to last six sts, k2tog, k3, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm. 60 sts
 □ Rnd 11: (k2tog, yfwd, k1, k2tog, yfwd) five times, k2tog, yfwd, k1, k2tog, yrn, p to end
 □ Rnd 12: as Rnd 8
 □ Rnd 13: as Rnd 11
 □ Rnd 14: * k2, k2tog, k1, rep from * to last five sts, k2, k2tog, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm. 48 sts
 □ Rnd 15: (k2tog, yfwd) 11 times, k2tog, yrn, p to last st, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm
 □ Rnd 16: * k2tog, k2, rep from * to last four sts, k2tog, k1, sl st to RH needle, rm, place st back on to LH needle, pm. 36 sts
 □ Rnd 17: (k2tog, k1) six times, p2tog to end. 21 sts
 □ Rnd 18: * k2tog, rep from * to last st, k1. 11 sts
 □ Cut yarn and thread through rem sts, pull tight
 Weave in loose ends

FINGERLESS GLOVES

Right glove

Using 4.5mm dpns, cast on 28 sts, pm and join in the round being careful not to twist sts
 □ Rnd 1: p12, (p3, k1) four times
 □ Rnd 2: k12, (p3, k1) four times
 □ Rep Rnds 1-2 until work meas 3cm, ending after a Rnd 2

WRIST

□ Rnd 1: p12, (k2, k2tog, yfwd) four times
 □ Rnd 2 and all even-numbered rnds: k
 □ Rnd 3: p12, k1, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) three times, k2tog, yfwd, k1
 □ Rnd 5: p12, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) four times
 □ Rnd 7: p12, k3, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) three times, k1
 □ Rnd 8: k
 □ Rep Rnds 1-8 once more

PALM AND THUMB GUSSET

□ Rnd 1: p2, pm, p1, pm, p9, (k2, k2tog, yfwd) four times
 □ Rnd 2: k to first marker, sm, m1, k1, m1, sm, k to end. 30 sts
 □ Rnd 3: p14, k1, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) three times, k2tog, yrn, p1
 □ Rnd 4: k to first marker, sm, m1, k to second marker, m1, sm,

k to end. 32 sts
 □ Rnd 5: p16, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) three times, k2tog, yrn, p2
 □ Rnd 6: as Rnd 4. 34 sts
 □ Rnd 7: p18, k3, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) twice, k2tog, yrn, p3
 □ Rnd 8: as Rnd 4. 36 sts
 □ Rnd 9: p20, (k2, k2tog, yfwd) twice, k2, k2tog, yrn, p4
 □ Rnd 10: as Rnd 4. 38 sts
 □ Rnd 11: p22, k1, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) twice, k2tog, yrn, p5
 □ Rnd 12 and foll even-

numbered rnds: k
 □ Rnd 13: p22, (k2tog, yfwd, k2) twice, k2tog, yrn, p6
 □ Rnd 15: p22, k3, k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yrn, p7
 □ Rnd 17: p22, k2, k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yrn, p8
 □ Rnd 19: p22, k1, k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yrn, p9
 □ Rnd 21: p22, k2tog, yfwd, k2, k2tog, yrn, p10

KEEP KNITTING ON P93

EASY
LACE
PATTERN



Dress, £45, Oasis



Brilliant BOUCLÉ

Get fleecy this spring with a collection of bouclé yarns!

Bouclé yarns are growing in popularity, and now that the lamb-rearing season is almost upon us, we decided to celebrate their fluffy style! Bouclé yarn features the bobbly effect created when one strand of yarn is spun much tighter than the others. The series of loops produced is what gives bouclé yarns their sheepy texture – perfect for teddy bears and cosy cardis!

1 Juey Poodle Chunky

Made using 100% Bluefaced Leicester, Juey's new British yarn is a delight to behold. Soft to knit and available in natural cream and grey shades, it's also the perfect opportunity for enthusiastic dyers! One 100g (70m) skein costs £13.99 from **01422 647574**, www.juey.co.uk

2 Drops Alpaca Bouclé

This fine and fluffy yarn uses 80% alpaca, 15% wool and 5% polyamide to create a luxurious bouclé texture in ten subtle shades. It is incredible value for money at just £2.10 per 50g (140m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

8 Stylecraft Astrakhan Super Chunky

Grab your chunky needles, we've got a big, bold yarn for you! Astrakhan is an acrylic, wool and viscose blend which is knitted on 8mm needles to really let the texture shine. The stylish block colours also feature natural cream neps, creating an overall tweedy effect. One 100g (70m) ball costs £3.99 from **01925 764231**, www.blacksheepwools.com

7 Rowan Purelife British Sheep Breeds Fine Bouclé

Purelife is a beautiful fleecy yarn in four undyed shades, including cream, light brown, dark brown, and the varied 'Masham stripe' featured here. Made using 91% British wool, it's a great choice for lovers of natural knits. One 50g (100m) ball costs £5.50 from **01244 389310**, www.stashfineyarns.com

3 Bergere de France Bohème

This funky two-tone yarn not only combines two different colour shades, but also has a thick-and-thin weight which ranges from chunky, loosely spun plies to tight twists. Made using acrylic, cotton, polyamide and polyester, it's soft to knit with and will create some very distinctive spring projects! One 50g (142m) ball costs £3.95 from **01924 565740**, www.woolnstuff.co.uk

4 Rare Yarns New Zealand Bouclé

With a commitment to unusual products, Rare Yarns is a boutique knitting company which relies on natural fibres to create exquisite yarns. With 80% alpaca and 20% merino, this soft creation feels truly special. It is available in nine sumptuous shades. One 50g (77m) ball costs £6.95 from **01626 836203**, www.spinayarndevon.co.uk

5 Lion Brand Yarns Homespun

Although relatively new to the UK market, Lion Brand has been selling yarn in the US since 1878! With an incredible 62 colours to choose from, this fab chunky yarn is sure to create some truly stunning effects. One 170g (169m) ball costs £5.99 from **0800 488 0708**, www.deramores.com

6 Touch Yarns Super Kid Mohair/Merino Bouclé

This incredible yarn is available in 22 wonderful colours, and will make a fantastically decadent scarf or wrap. The merino wool makes it a delight to touch, while the kid mohair blend adds a fantastic halo. Try knitting with larger needles and an openwork lace project to really show off the yarn at its best. One 100g (175m) skein costs £19.95 from **01626 836203**, www.spinayarndevon.co.uk



MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8 (10-12, 14-16, 18-20)

To fit chest (cm):

81 (86-91, 97-102, 107-112)

Actual chest (cm):

82 (97, 104, 119)

Length (cm):

50.5 (51.5, 52.5, 54)

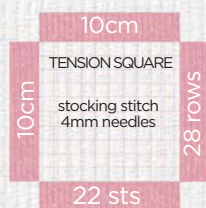
KNIT KIT

Yarn: Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK, shade 360 Parsley, 8 (9, 10, 11) 50g balls

Needles: 4mm straight, 4mm short circular

Large tapestry needle

Buttons: shell, 25mm, five



ABOUT THE YARN

Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK is an exquisitely soft yarn comprising 75% merino, 20% silk and 5% cashmere, and has a simply inspiring colour range.



Need an alternative yarn?

Why not knit British? **Debbie Bliss Blue Faced Leicester DK** is a 100% wool yarn in 12 traditional colours. Machine wash at 30°C.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

Work wraps tog with st on a k row: insert RH needle up through wrap then into st. K st and wrap tog
Work wraps tog with st on a p row: from k side of work, lift wrap and place in front of p st. P st and wrap tog

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK costs £4.25 per 50g (116m) ball from 01709 828536, www.thecraftyyarnshop.co.uk



Debbie Bliss Blue Faced Leicester DK costs £5.35 per 50g (108m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blackssheepwools.com



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Abigail is a bell-shaped cardi with a lacy edging by Anniken Allis

Bell-shaped cardigans and jackets are a really flattering style that accentuate all the right curves – especially when paired with skinny jeans or leggings on your bottom half. We love this tribute to the shape from lace queen Anniken Allis, complete with a simple floral edging. If you're new to charts, remember that they are read from right to left, starting on the bottom row and working up.

START KNITTING HERE

Back

Using 4mm needles, cast on 90 (106, 114, 130) sts

□ Rows 1-4: k

□ Row 5: k1, * k2tog, [yfwd] twice, ssk, rep from * to last st, k1

□ Row 6: k1, * k1, k2 tbl, k1, rep from * to last st, k1

□ Rows 7-8: k

□ Row 9: k to end inc one st in centre of row. 91 (107, 115, 131) sts

□ Row 10: p

□ Work Rows 1-12 of Chart on page 48

SHAPE CURVED HEM

□ Row 1: k to last ten sts, w&t

□ Row 2: p to last ten sts, w&t

□ Row 3: k to ten sts before last wrapped st, w&t

□ Row 4: p to ten sts before last wrapped st, w&t

□ Rep Rows 3-4 twice more

□ Row 9: k to end incl wraps as they appear

□ Row 10: p to end, work wraps tog with st

□ Work in st st until Back meas 33 (33, 32.5, 33) cm along side edge, ending after a WS row

SHAPE ARMHOLE

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg of next two rows. 83 (97, 103, 117) sts

□ Next row (RS): k2, ssk, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 81 (95, 101, 115) sts

□ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 79 (93, 99, 113) sts

□ Rep last two rows 0 (1, 1, 2) more times. 79 (89, 95, 105) sts

□ Cont to dec on RS rows only 1 (2, 2, 3) more times. 77 (85, 91, 99) sts

□ Cont to work in st st until Back meas 49.5, (50.5, 51.5, 53) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

□ Next row: k19 (22, 23, 27), k2tog, k1, turn. 21 (24, 25, 29) sts

□ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to end. 20 (23, 24, 28) sts

□ Next row: k to end

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

□ Next row (WS): p to last 14 (16, 18, 18) sts, w&t

□ Next row: k

□ Next row: p to last 7 (8, 9, 9) sts, w&t

□ Next row: k

□ Next row: p to end, work wraps tog with st

Place all sts on holder

SHAPE LEFT NECK

Place 33 (35, 39, 39) sts on holder for Back neck. 22 (25, 26, 30) sts

□ Re-attach yarn at neck edge, k1, ssk, k to end. 21 (24, 25, 29) sts

□ Next row: p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 20 (23, 24, 28) sts

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

□ Next row (RS): k to last 14 (16, 18, 18) sts, w&t

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: k to last 7 (8, 9, 9) sts, w&t

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: k to end, work wraps tog with st

Place all sts on holder

Left front

Using 4mm needles, cast on 42 (50, 58, 66) sts

□ Work as for Back until 12 rows of Chart are complete. 43 (51, 59, 67) sts

□ Work in st st without shaping until Left front matches Back to armhole shaping (meas along side edge), ending after a WS row

SHAPE ARMHOLE

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg of next row. 39 (46, 53, 60) sts

□ Next row (WS): p

□ Next row: k2, ssk, k to end. 38 (45, 52, 59) sts

□ Next row: p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 37 (44, 51, 58) sts

□ Rep last two rows 0 (1, 1, 2) more times. 37 (42, 49, 54) sts

□ Cont to dec on RS rows only 1 (2, 2, 3) times more. 36 (40, 47, 51) sts

□ Cont to work in st st until Left front meas 46.5 (46.5, 46.5, 46) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE LEFT NECK

□ Next row (RS): k26 (29, 32, 36), turn

Place rem 10 (11, 15, 15) sts on holder

□ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to end. 25 (28, 31, 35) sts

□ Next row: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 24 (27, 30, 34) sts

□ Rep last two rows 2 (2, 3, 3) times more. 20 (23, 24, 28) sts

□ Work in st st until Left front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending after a RS row



"This yarn comes in a range of lovely springtime shades, so think about your existing wardrobe and choose a colour that will really complement everything."

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS

KEEP KNITTING ON P48



FLATTER
YOUR
SHAPE!

knitwise

BUTTON UP! Buttonholes are easily worked into your pattern using the following method. Remember that they can be adjusted in size to suit your chosen buttons; if you need a larger or smaller buttonhole, just cast off/on more or fewer stitches in Steps 2 and 3.

Work to the place where you need to start the buttonhole.

Step 1: take yarn to front between needles, sl one st pwise to RH needle, take yarn to back between needles

Step 2: * sl next st pwise and pass first slipped st over, rep from * until you have cast off four sts. Sl last st from RH to LH needle and turn work

Step 3: with WS facing, cable cast on five sts (the same number cast off in Step 2, plus one). Before placing last stitch on LH needle, bring yarn to front between needles, place st on LH needle and turn work

Step 4: sl first st on LH needle kwise and pass last cast-on stitch over and off needle.

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

- Next row (WS): p to last 14 (16, 18, 18) sts, w&t
- Next row: k
- Next row: p to last 7 (8, 9, 9) sts, w&t
- Next row: k
- Next row: p to end, work wraps tog with st
- Place sts on holder

Right front

- Using 4mm needles, cast on 42 (50, 58, 66) sts
- Work as for Left front until Right front matches Back to armhole shaping (measuring along side edge), ending after a RS row

SHAPE ARMHOLE

- Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg of next row. 39 (46, 53, 60) sts
- Next row (RS): k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 38 (45, 52, 59) sts
- Next row: p2, p2tog tbl, p to end. 37 (44, 51, 58) sts
- Rep last two rows 0 (1, 1, 2) more times. 37 (42, 49, 54) sts
- Cont to dec on RS rows only 1 (2, 2, 3) times. 36 (40, 47, 51) sts
- Cont to work in st st until Right front matches Left front to neck shaping, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

- Next row (RS): place first 10 (11, 15, 15) sts on holder, reattach yarn at neck edge and k to end. 26 (29, 32, 36) sts
- Next row: p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 25 (28, 31, 35) sts
- Next row: k1, ssk, k to end. 24 (27, 30, 34) sts
- Rep last two rows 2 (2, 3, 3) times more. 20 (23, 24, 28) sts
- Work until Right front matches Back to shoulder

shaping, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

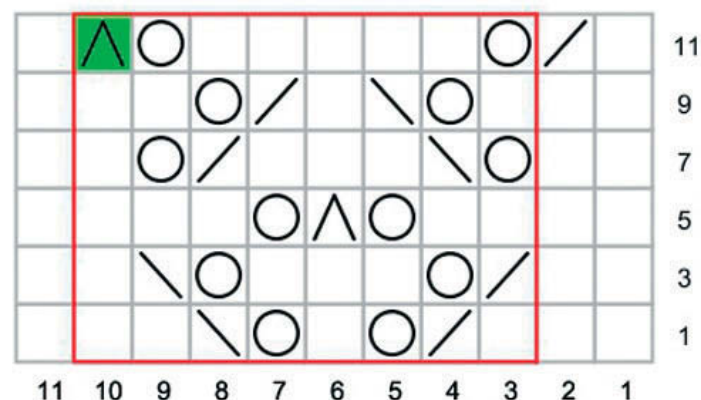
- Next row (RS): k to last 14 (16, 18, 18) sts, w&t
- Next row: p
- Next row: k to last 7 (8, 9, 9) sts, w&t
- Next row: p
- Next row: k to end, work wraps tog with st
- Place all sts on holder

Sleeves

- Using 4mm needles, cast on 66 (66, 74, 82) sts
- Work as for Back, finishing after Chart. 67 (67, 75, 83) sts
 - Work in st st for six rows
 - Next row: k2, m1, k to last two sts, m1, k2. 69 (69, 77, 85) sts
 - Work five rows in st st
 - Rep last six rows a further 0 (2, 2, 1) times. 69 (73, 81, 87) sts
 - Cont in st st until Sleeve meas 21.5 (22, 22.5, 23) cm ending after a WS row

SHAPE CAP

- Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg of next two rows. 61 (63, 69, 73) sts
- Next row (RS): k2, ssk, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 59 (61, 67, 71) sts
- Next row: p
- Rep last two rows 9 (10, 12, 12) times. 41 (41, 43, 47) sts
- Next row: k2, ssk, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 39 (39, 41, 45) sts
- Next row: p2, p2tog, p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 37 (37, 39, 43) sts
- Rep last two rows 0 (0, 0, 1) more times. 37 (37, 39, 39) sts
- Cast off five sts at beg of next four rows. 17 (17, 19, 19) sts
- Cast off



Key		NOTE: All even numbered rows - p to end	
	last patt rep: ssk	●	yfwd
	knit	/	ssk
△	sl 1, k2tog, pssso		pattern repeat
/	k2tog		



Skirt from a selection at New Look

To make up

- Join shoulder seams by working a three needle cast off on WS row
- Set in sleeve cap, seam underarm and side seams

Neckband

- Using short circular needle and beg at Right front with RS facing, k10 (11, 15, 15) sts from Front neck, pick up and k 9 (11, 15, 17) sts to right shoulder, four sts to Back neck, k33 (35, 39, 39) sts from Back neck, pick up and k four sts to left shoulder, 9 (11, 15, 17) sts to Front neck, k10 (11, 15, 15) sts from front neck. 79 (87, 107, 111) sts
- Row 1 (WS): k to end, dec one st at centre of row. 78 (86, 106, 110) sts
- Row 2: k
- Row 3: k1, * k2tog, [yfwd] twice, ssk, rep from * to last st, k1
- Row 4: k1, * k1, k2 tbl, k1, rep from * to last st, k1
- Row 5: k
- Cast off pwise

Right front buttonband

Adjust size of buttonholes to fit buttons if necessary by casting off more or less sts in Step 2 of buttonhole instructions (see Knitwise on page 47)

- Using short circular needle and beg at lower edge with RS facing, pick up and k 101 (101, 101, 99) sts along edge
- Rows 1-2: k
- Row 3: k4, * work one-row buttonhole, k12, rep from * four times, work one-row buttonhole, k to end
- Rows 4-6: k
- Cast off

Left front buttonband

- Using short circular needle and beg at neck edge with RS facing, pick up and k 101 (101, 101, 99) sts along edge
- Rows 1-6: k
- Cast off
- Weave in all loose ends, sew on buttons **LK**



Part Three: Knitting



Learn to knit, purl and cast off in the next installment of our tutorial series

KNIT

This is the most basic stitch in knitting. Hold the needle with the stitches in your left hand and the empty needle in your right hand.

Step 1: insert the right hand (RH) needle through the front of the loop on your left hand (LH) needle



Step 2: wrap the yarn around the tip of the RH needle from left to right



Step 3: use the RH needle to pull this wrapped strand through the loop on the LH needle and drop the loop off the LH needle



Knitting every stitch is called garter stitch. This is a reversible pattern that looks almost identical on both sides



PURL

The other important stitch in most knitting patterns is the purl stitch.

Step 1: insert the RH needle from right to left into the loop on the LH needle



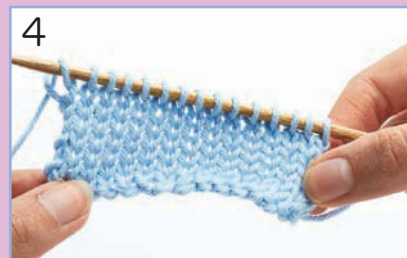
Step 2: wrap the yarn around the tip of the RH needle from right to left



Step 3: use the RH needle to pull the wrapped strand through the loop on the LH needle and drop the loop off the LH needle



Working one row knit and one row purl produces stocking stitch. This is what it looks like from the right side of the work



This is what it looks like from the wrong side of the work



Unless your pattern tells you otherwise, the knit row will be the RS of your work. When the purl row is the RS, this is called reverse stocking stitch.

JOINING IN A NEW BALL OF YARN

Try to join a new ball of yarn at the beginning of the row. Insert your needle into the first stitch of the row, then lay the tail of the new yarn over the top of the old one and knit the stitch. We've used a different colour to show the technique, but this also demonstrates how to join a new colour to work stripes.



Continued over the page...



STITCH LIBRARY

The knit and purl stitches can be combined to create a wide variety of stitch patterns

RIB

This is a stretchy stitch pattern that's often used for cuffs and edges. It's a repeating pattern that alternates between knit and purl stitches.

1x1 rib: * k1, then move the yarn between the tips of the needle, p1, take the yarn back between the tips of the needle, repeat from * to end. Moving the yarn between the tips of the needle is very important. Moving it over the barrel of the needle will create an extra stitch.



2x2 rib: * k2, p2, repeat from * to end



2x3 rib: * k2, p3, repeat from * to end



BASKETWEAVE

This is a variation on a regular rib pattern, but is off-set, after a number of rows. This swatch features a (k3, p3) pattern, that switches to (p3, k3) after four rows.



MOSS STITCH

This textured stitch pattern is worked in a similar way to 1x1 rib but the stitch pattern is off-set on alternate rows. Again, remember to move the yarn between the needles when changing from knit and purl stitches.

Over an odd-number of stitches, it is worked as follows:

□ Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to last st, k1
This row is then repeated throughout

Over an even-number of stitches, it is worked as follows:

□ Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
□ Row 2: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
These two rows are repeated throughout



IDENTIFYING STITCHES

Beginner knitters often ask, "How do I know when to knit or purl?" It's actually really easy to tell. A knit stitch looks like a v-shape and a purl stitch will have a bump. This is what is meant when you are instructed to 'knit the knit stitches and purl the purl stitches as they appear.'

A knit stitch (v-shape):



A purl stitch (bump):



CASTING OFF

The cast-off row is the final row of your project and is usually worked in consistency with the stitch pattern.

KNITWISE:

Step 1: knit two stitches, * insert the tip of the LH needle into the second stitch from the tip of the RH needle



Step 2: use the LH needle to lift this stitch over the one nearest the end of the RH needle and drop it off the needle. One stitch has been cast off.



Step 3: knit one stitch *, repeat from * (in Step 1) to * until one stitch remains on the RH needle



Step 4: cut the yarn leaving a tail, then insert this tail through the remaining loop on the needle. Pull it tight to secure your stitch



PURLWISE:

When casting off on a purl row, purl two stitches, then move the yarn to the back of the work before passing the stitch over and off the needle.



IN PATTERN:

This example is for 2x2 rib. Work the stitches in accordance with the stitch pattern, but remember to move the yarn to the back of the work before passing the stitch over.



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MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Scarf: 182cm long x 18cm wide

Bag:

Height (when open): 32cm

Height (when closed, including the top fold width of 2cm): 16cm

Width: 28cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: King Cole Bamboo Cotton, shade 533, **Scarf:** two 100g balls, **Bag:** two 100g balls

Needles: **Bag:** 3mm double-pointed, 3.25mm straight, **Bag and Scarf:** 3mm straight, 3.75mm straight

Beads: gold, 4mm, **Scarf:** 38, **Bag:** 39

Lining fabric: 30cm x 68cm (for Bag)

Popper: clear, 10mm, one (for Bag)

Wadding: 25cm x 29cm (for Bag)

Tapestry needle

Sewing needle and thread

Stitch markers



ABOUT THE YARN

King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK is a really versatile 50/50 blend of cotton and bamboo-sourced viscose. These two natural fibres combine to create a sleek yarn with an elegant drape and pretty sheen. There are more than 30 alternative shades to choose from if you're not a fan of lime.

Need an alternative yarn?

Why not add even more glitz to your project with **Sirdar Ella**? This cotton and acrylic blend has a thread of silver polyester running throughout. Choose from 15 summery shades.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



King Cole Bamboo Cotton DK costs £4.99 per 100g (230m) ball from 0117 300 5211, www.getknitted.com

Sirdar Ella costs £2.62 per 50g (126m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERNS

Verdigris is a vibrant bag and scarf set with pretty beaded detail

Add a splash of colour to your outfit with this fabulous accessories set from **Charmaine Fletcher**! Both the scarf and bag use lace techniques to create interesting stitch detail and are trimmed with gold beads for even more glamour. The bag is lined for a professional finish – this does require a certain level of sewing skills but you don't have to be a master tailor, just follow the instructions carefully and you'll be fine.



START KNITTING HERE

SCARF

Thread each ball of yarn with 19 beads (see Knitwise)

Using 3.75mm needles cast on 37 sts

NOTE: cast-on row counts as one border row

□ Row 1 (RS): sl 1 kwise, k1, p to last two sts, k2

□ Row 2 and all WS rows: sl 1 pwise, k1, p to last two sts, k1, p1

□ Row 3 (bead row): sl 1 pwise, k2, * pb, k1, rep from * to last two sts, k2

□ Row 5: sl 1 kwise, k to end

□ Row 7: sl 1 kwise, k5, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k9, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with k7

□ Row 9: sl 1 kwise, k3, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k3, yfwd, k2tog, k4,

rep from * to end

□ Row 11 (bead row): sl 1 pwise, k6, pb, k10, pb, k10, pb, k7

□ Row 13: as Row 9

□ Row 15: as Row 7

□ Row 17: as Row 5

□ Row 19 (p ridge): sl 1 kwise, k1, p to last two sts, k2

□ Row 21: as Row 5

MAIN LACE SECTION

□ Row 22 (WS): sl 1 pwise, k1, p to last two sts, k1, p1

□ Row 23: sl 1 kwise, k2, * yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1, rep

from to * last two sts, k2

□ Rep Rows 22-23 until work meas 168cm, ending after a RS row

SECOND BORDER

□ Row 1 and all WS rows: sl 1 pwise, k1, p to last two sts, k1, p1

□ Row 2: sl 1 kwise, k to end

□ Row 4 (p ridge): sl 1 kwise, k1, p to last two sts, k2

□ Row 6: as Row 2

□ Row 8: sl 1 kwise, k5, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k9, rep from * to



"Join in a new ball in the penultimate stitch of a RS row, then use the old ball to work the last stitch. This ensures a secure join and prevents a lumpy border."

LK DESIGNER CHARMINE FLETCHER

end, finishing last rep with k7

- ❑ Row 10: sl 1 kwise, k3, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k3, yfwd, k2tog, k4, rep from * to end
- ❑ Row 12 (bead row): sl 1 kwise, k6, pb, k10, pb, k10, pb, k7
- ❑ Row 14: as Row 10
- ❑ Row 16: as Row 8
- ❑ Row 18: as Row 2
- ❑ Row 20: as Row 2
- ❑ Row 21 (bead border): sl 1 pwise, k1, p1, * pb, p1, rep from * to last two sts, k1, p1

Change to 3mm needles

- ❑ Row 22: sl 1 kwise, k1, p to last two sts, k2
- ❑ Cast-off row: sl 1 pwise, k1, pass slipped st over as first cast-off st, cast off kwise to last st, p1, cast off last two sts kwise

To make up

Weave in ends. Block the scarf by folding it in half, then stretching it out over one long or two shorter towels. Lightly spray with water, then pin to the given dimensions and allow to dry

BAG

Thread yarn with 33 beads
Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 59 sts

❑ Row 1 (WS): p

❑ Row 2: k

Change to 3.75mm needles

❑ Row 3: p1, k to last st, p1

knitwise

BEADY EYED: Before you start, you need to pre-thread your beads on to your knitting yarn. To do this, thread a sewing needle with a short length of cotton and knot to make a loop. Insert your yarn through this loop and fold over the end. Slide the beads on to the sewing needle, then push them down the cotton and on to the yarn. To place a bead as you knit, bring the yarn to the front of the work, slip the next stitch purlwise, and slide the bead up the yarn to sit as close to the work as possible. Return the yarn to the back of the work and carry on knitting. On a purl row, take the yarn to the back of the work, slip the next stitch purlwise then slide up the bead, leaving it on the knit side of the work. Bring the yarn to the front and continue.

- ❑ Row 4: k1, p to last st, k1
- ❑ Row 5: p
- ❑ Row 6 (bead row): k2, pb, * k1, pb, rep from * to last two sts, k2
- ❑ Rows 7-9: beg with a p row work in st st
- ❑ Row 10: k6, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k9, rep from * to end,

finishing last rep with k7

- ❑ Row 11 and all WS rows: p
- ❑ Row 12: k4, * sl 1, k1, pssso, yfwd, k3, yfwd, k2tog, k4, rep from * to end
- ❑ Row 14 (bead section): k7, pb, * k10, pb, rep from * to last seven sts, k7
- ❑ Row 16: as Row 12

- ❑ Row 18: as Row 10
- ❑ Rows 19-21: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ❑ Row 22 (p ridge): k1, p to last st, k1
- ❑ Rows 23-47: beg with a p row, work in st st

KEEP KNITTING ON P93



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WITH
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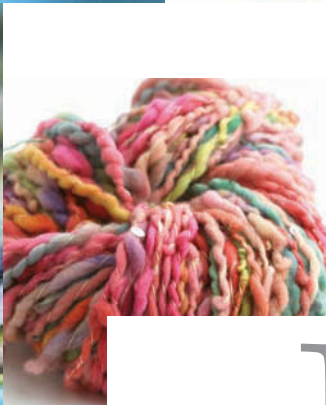
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In a SPIN

Adrienne Chandler discovers the art of spinning fibres into yarn

The magic of spinning and spinning wheels is embedded in our imaginations from an early age, due to the number of fairytales that feature the craft, including Rumpelstiltskin, Sleeping Beauty and The Three Spinners. Even as adults there is something mesmerising about watching someone spin. For knitters, the desire to create your own yarn is a logical progression, but where do you start? The two main methods of spinning are with a drop spindle or a spinning wheel. However, it's not just a case of simply twisting the raw fibres together. A whole host of eye-catching and textured yarn effects can be spun by hand. Read on to find out more about this age-old skill.

tease out the fibre. Spinning wheels later developed to have a treadle, which turned the wheel, and a flyer to twist the yarn and wind it into a spool. The best example of this is the Saxony wheel, which is the style we recognise from childhood tales.

The castle wheel also has a treadle and flyer, but is more compact. The composite parts are

arranged vertically to save space. Modern wheels are based on this design and have been stripped down to make them more efficient and easy to use.

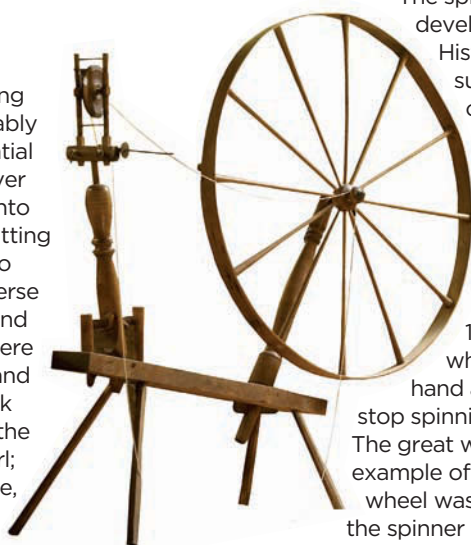
The art of discovery

The invention of spinning fibres into yarn is arguably one of the most influential discoveries mankind ever made. It advanced us into a world of weaving, knitting and stitching, leading to more practical and diverse materials for clothing and everyday use. Fibres were originally twisted by hand and wound on to a stick or spindle. Then came the development of a whorl; this was a piece of bone, clay, wood or stone which was attached

to the spindle to add weight and momentum. This was the earliest form of drop spindle and the design has changed very little. Archaeologists have found remains of drop spindles that date as far back as 5000 BC.

The spinning wheel did not develop until much later.

Historians have suggested that the original wheels came from China, before making their way to India, through Persia and into Europe. The spinning wheel wasn't in regular use in Europe until the 13th century. These wheels were turned by hand and you also had to stop spinning to wind the yarn. The great wheel (left) is a good example of this style; a large wheel was set in motion, while the spinner walked backwards to



An iconic image

During India's fight for independence, Gandhi used the spinning wheel to inspire his people to be self-sufficient and support themselves through the spinning of cotton. As part of the khadi movement, Gandhi's followers developed a more compact, portable version of the traditional hand-turned charkha wheel, known as a box charkha. They encouraged men to take up spinning as well as women. The Indian flag still features a spinning wheel in its centre as a reflection of this influential campaign.



Fleece and fibre

Different fibres have certain qualities that will affect how they spin. Wool has a long staple – that's the length of the individual strands – which means it binds together very easily. It's a good choice for beginners.

Conversely, silky, short staple fibres like angora will slide apart, so you probably don't want to try them until you're more advanced.

Your fibre will either come as ready-to-spin roving or as raw fleece. For the latter, it will need a bit of TLC before you begin. First, soak your raw fibre in hot soapy water to remove any grease and dirt – do not scrub or agitate the fibres as this will cause them to felt. Lay your fibre out on a drying rack and make sure it is completely dry before you start.



Be prepared

The two most commonly used methods of preparing your fibre are carding and combing. Both techniques open up the fleece, teasing apart the individual strands to create a light and airy fibre that is ready to be spun. Hand carders are paddles featuring closely-packed wire bristles. By brushing one carder against another, you can separate the strands. When you are happy with the look of your fibre, it can be rolled off the carder into a 'rolag' ready for spinning. A 'batt' is like a rolag but is made on a drum carder (similar to a large roller) so is much wider.

Alternatively, you can use a wool comb, which has large metal teeth. This method gives you a length of very neatly aligned fibres, which are known as 'tops'. If you're buying pre-prepared fibre, you will also come across the word 'roving'. This is often used to describe any carded or combed fibre that is ready to be spun.



CARDING FLEECE FOR SPINNING

Top or bottom?

Many beginners will start their spinning adventure using a drop spindle. Modern spindles have a hook at the end of the shaft and a notch to secure the fibre. The whorl is usually positioned at the top or bottom of the spindle. This affects the amount of spin and therefore how much twist is in the fibre. On top-whorl spindles, the whorl is nearer the hook. This design spins faster and will create more twist, so is ideal for fine yarns. For thicker yarns, a bottom-whorl spindle is well-suited. It also spins more evenly.



"You can let the fibre tell you how it wants to be spun"



Louise Player, 25, is a self-taught spinner and makes a living selling her handmade fibres, yarns and drop spindles

I've always taught myself new crafts and woke up one morning with an urge to spin. I was studying textiles and knitwear, and was designing with really chunky wool yarn. I wasn't able to get hold of the yarn of my dreams, so decided to learn to spin. I got a spinning wheel from Santa Claus and taught myself from YouTube videos and through trial and error. It was extremely frustrating for about a week, but I loved the feel of the fibre in my hands and finally had a 'clouds parting' moment.

I was at university, so instead of getting a part-time job, I sold my yarn. My family are all entrepreneurs and run their own businesses so it just seemed a very natural thing for me to try and do. I've had such an amazing response from the online community and it has just gone from strength to strength.

Don't worry if your yarn looks lumpy, bumpy, thick and thin, just enjoy the experience. Have an open mind, focus on getting some kind of yarn and be pleased with the results. You can let the fibre tell you how it wants to be spun. I have this indescribable love for every yarn I make. I hang them up around the house and just look at them for a while, then almost reluctantly put them on my online shop.

I've become obsessed drop spinning. I have maybe ten spindles on the go – some in my handbag, one by the kettle and one in the lounge. They are so convenient and portable. Once I got the hang of controlling the fibre with a pinch and a twist, drop spinning was quite easy. I think it's ideal for people to learn on, because it's quite low cost. I've taught lots of people to spin at workshops and knitting shows. Kids love it, they think it's magic. I even taught

my mum and grandmother to spin.

Nowadays people have everything they want, but not the ability to make things themselves. I enable people to learn new skills. I sell a lot of batts, roving blends and dyed fibres. People want to learn the skills and have experiences. I think spinning can be a little intimidating and old-fashioned in some respects, so I wanted to make drop spindles that are funky, colourful and cheerful. You can never have too much sparkle!

See Louise's full range of yarns, fibres and spindles at www.spincityuk.etsy.com or read her blog at www.spincityuk.blogspot.co.uk

Drop spinning

Start with a leader thread, as this will give your fibre something to bind with. This is usually a length of yarn knotted to make a loop, which is secured to the shaft of the spindle, passed over the whorl and twisted around the hook. Practise twisting the spindle from the leader yarn, then place the end of your fibre through the loop, pinch this in place and start to twist. When you have twist in the leader yarn, gradually loosen your grip on the fibre whilst moving your hand upwards. Watch the twist travel up the yarn. The pinching and teasing out of fibres, known as drafting (shown right), is the technique that takes the longest to master. You can hold the spindle between your knees while you manage the fibre. This is known as parking and drafting. Eventually you will be able to let the spindle spin while you use both hands for pinching and handling the fibre.

Further reading

Spinning & Dyeing by Ashley Martineau (£25, Jacqui Small) is a handy resource guide, full of essential information from sorting and cleaning fibre to how to achieve a variety of dyeing and spinning techniques. It features top tips plus guidance on how to turn your hobby into a business. Get your copy from www.amazon.co.uk



"Spinning is like second nature to me"



We catch up with Ashley Martineau, the creative force behind Neauveau Fiber Arts and author of Spinning & Dyeing

When I was ten, a lady from church invited me to her house every week to watch a movie and learn knitting. I made a garter stitch rectangle that became a shawl for my stuffed rabbit – the only thing I completed until I was 20. When my mother-in-law handed me a pair 12mm needles, I found my calling in the world of bulky yarn.



I came across Lexi Boeger's website, pluckyfluff, and her yarns took my breath away. I knew I needed to begin spinning my own. On a hot summer's day in my tiny apartment, I assembled my wheel and tried spinning cotton – a stapleless fibre – until I wanted to burn the wheel. I walked away and took a breath. I came back, ripped out the cotton and grabbed some wool roving. Magically, things started making sense. I found some feathers and string and plied it into the yarn. I was inspired!



There is something raw and magical about the first yarns you spin. My favourite emails are from brand new spinners who are running around the house looking for things to put into yarn. Once I learned to spin, my needles were put aside; I was having too much fun! The proceeds from my yarns helped me build up a stash of fibres.

Now that I've had time and experience at the wheel, spinning is like second nature to me. I never call myself an 'expert' because that would mean I've learned everything I need to know and that makes me sad. I like to experiment with different techniques and challenge myself.

Spinning is like writing. Drop spindling is like writing long hand, whereas spinning on a wheel is more like typing on a keyboard. You write the same words, but the experience of writing that story is different.

Visit www.handspunartyarn.com to see Ashley's yarn and check out her blog. Read our full interview with Ashley at www.letsknit.co.uk

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Some of our fabulous readers have also been spinning their own yarns



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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Fern is a graceful and feminine sweater with delicate lace detailing

At this time of year, when the weather is hovering between coat and cardigan temperature, a lightweight pullover is the perfect garment. Fern can be dressed up or down to fit all manner of occasions, and the mustard shade is right on trend. Designed by Anniken Allis, Fern is a great project for an intermediate knitter.



GET
READY
FOR
SPRING!

START KNITTING ON P60

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-20

To fit chest (cm):

81, 86-91, 97-102, 107-112

Actual chest (cm):

83, 96, 105.5, 115

Length (cm) to back

neck (approx):

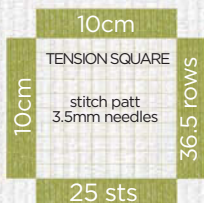
59.5, 61.5, 64, 66

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Manos del Uruguay Silk Blend Fino, shade 2220, 5 (5, 6, 6) 50g skeins

Needles: 3.5mm circular, 40cm and 80cm long (larger sizes may require 100cm)

Stitch markers, six



ABOUT THE YARN

Manos del Uruguay Silk Blend Fino is a beautifully formed 4ply yarn. It is made from 70% merino and 30% silk for a gorgeously smooth handle, and comes in a whopping 22 hand-dyed colours.

Need an alternative yarn?

Louisa Harding Amitola is a great alternative if you like yarns with variegated colourways. It is made from 80% wool and 20% silk, meaning it's super soft and perfect for garments worn close to the skin.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

K3w: insert needle into st knitwise, wrap yarn three times around right needle and finish st as normal

Four st cross st: slip four sts purlwise to right needle, dropping extra wraps. Lift the first two sts over the last two sts and slip all four sts back to left needle. K4 (ensure sts remain crossed as you k them)

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Manos del Uruguay Silk Blend Fino costs £8.10 per 50g (225m) from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com

Louisa Harding Amitola costs £6.29 per 50g (250m) from 01925 764 231, www.blacksheepwools.com

Stitch Pattern

- Rnd 1: k to end
- Rnd 2: p to end
- Rnd 3: [k3w] rep to end
- Rnd 4: [four st cross st] rep to end
- Rnd 5: p to end
- Rnds 6-12: k to end
- Rnd 13: p to end
- Rnd 14: [k2tog, yfwd twice, ssk] rep to end
- Rnd 15: [p1, p2 tbl, p1] rep to end
- Rnds 16-22: k to end
- Rnds 1-22 set patt

START KNITTING HERE

Body

Using 3.5mm circular needle (80-100cm), cast on 208 (240, 264, 288) sts, join to work in the round, being careful not to twist sts. Pm to mark beg of rnd, and after 104, (120, 132, 144) sts

- Rnd 1: p to end
- Rnd 2: k to end
- Rep last two rnds twice more
- Commence st patt and work 16, (16, 18, 20) rnds

SHAPE WAIST

NOTE: Ensure shaping rnds fall during a plain k rnd. Adjust number of rnds worked bet decreases if necessary

- Next rnd: work in patt for 26, (30, 33, 36) sts, pm, work in patt to 26, (30, 33, 36) sts before side marker, pm, work in patt to side marker, sm, work in patt for 26, (30, 33, 36) sts, pm, work in patt to last 26, (30, 33, 36) sts, pm, work in patt to end
- Next rnd: work in patt to two sts before marker, k2tog, sm, work in patt to next marker, sm, ssk, work in patt to side marker, sm, work in patt to next marker, k2tog, sm, work in patt to next marker, sm, ssk, work in patt to end
- Work five rnds in patt
- Rep last six rnds five times more. 184 (216, 240, 264) sts
- Work ten rnds in patt
- Next rnd: work in patt to marker, m1, sm, work in patt to next marker, sm, m1, work in patt to side marker, sm, work in patt to next marker, m1, sm, work in patt to next marker, sm, m1, work in patt to end
- Work seven rnds in patt
- Rep last eight rnds five times more. 208 (240, 264, 288) sts
- Work in patt until Body meas 40.5 (41.5, 42, 43) cm.

Make a note of which patt rnd you finish on. Leave stitches on a needle

Sleeves (make two)

Using 3.5mm circular needle (40cm), cast on 64 (76, 84, 92) sts, join to work in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

- Pm to mark beg of rnd
- Rnd 1: p to end
- Rnd 2: k to end
- Rep last two rnds twice more
- Work five rnds in patt
- Next rnd: k1, m1, patt to last st, m1, k1
- Work nine rnds in patt
- Rep last rnd 6 (3, 4, 3) times more. 78 (84, 94, 100) sts
- Work in patt until Sleeve meas approx 22 (23, 23.5, 24.5) cm, ending on same patt rnd as Body, adjust Sleeve length

if necessary

□ Pm on both Sleeves after 39 (42, 47, 50) sts, these will become left and right shoulder markers

Yoke

NOTE: You will now be joining sts for Body and Sleeves on to one long circular needle.

Adjust number of rnds worked before joining for Yoke to ensure first Yoke rnd is on a plain k rnd

- Place 8 (10, 10, 12) sts from both sides of beg-of-rnd marker on both Sleeves on holder, and 8 (10, 10, 12) sts from both sides of side markers on Body on holder. 16 (20, 20, 24) sts on holder on each Sleeve, 16 (20, 20, 24) sts on holder on each side of Body. 64 (80, 80, 96) sts on holder,



"A beautiful, simple sweater with bands of alternating lace and crossed stitch patterns. The body and the sleeves are worked separately in the round to the underarm. Then the pieces are joined for a circular shaped yoke."

LK DESIGNER ANNIKEN ALLIS



300 (328, 372, 392) sts rem
 □ Next rnd: k across sts on Sleeve one leaving shoulder marker in place, k across sts for front of Body, k across sts on Sleeve two leaving shoulder marker in place, k across sts for back of Body, pm to mark beg of rnd. 300 (328, 372, 392) sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx 6 (6.5, 7, 7.5) cm, ready to start a k rnd
 □ Dec rnd 1: * [k2, k2tog] 18 (19, 23, 23) times, [k1, k2tog] 1 (2, 0, 2) times, k0 (0, 1, 0). Rep from * 3 (3, 3, 3) more times. 224 (244, 280, 292) sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx, 10 (10.5, 11, 11.5) cm, ready to start a k rnd

FIRST SIZE ONLY

□ Dec rnd 2: * [k1, k2tog] 18 times, k2tog once, rep from * three more times. 148 sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx 14 (-, -, -) cm, ready to start a k rnd
 □ Dec rnd 3: * k2tog, [k1, k2tog] 11 times, k2tog, rep from * three more times. 96 sts
 □ Work until Yoke meas approx 16cm, ready to start a k rnd

SECOND SIZE ONLY

□ Dec rnd 2: * [k1, k2tog] 19 times, [k2, k2tog] once, rep from * three more times. 164 sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx - (14.5, -, -) cm, ready to start a k rnd
 □ Dec rnd 3: * [k1, k2tog, k2tog] seven times, [k1, k2tog] twice, rep from * three more times. 100 sts
 □ Work until Yoke meas approx 17cm, ready to start a k rnd

THIRD SIZE ONLY

□ Dec rnd two: * k2tog [k1, k2tog] 11 times, rep from * seven more times. 184 sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx - (-, 15, -) cm, ready to start a k rnd
 □ Dec rnd three: * [k1, k2tog, k2tog] eight times, [k1, k2tog] twice, rep from * three more times. 112 sts
 □ Work until Yoke meas approx 19cm, ready to start a k rnd

FOURTH SIZE ONLY

□ Dec rnd 2: * [k1, k2tog] 19 times, [k2, k2tog] four times, rep from * three more times. 200 sts
 □ Cont in patt until Yoke meas approx - (-, -, 15.5) cm, ready to



Trousers, £35, A Postcard From Brighton, necklace £15, Marks & Spencer, belt £12, Next

start a k rnd
 □ Dec rnd 3: * [k1, [k2tog] twice] four times, rep from * nine more times. 120 sts
 □ Work until Yoke meas approx 20cm, ready to start a k rnd

ALL SIZES SHAPE BACK NECK

NOTE: This section will be worked flat
 □ Row 1 (RS): k to six sts before left shoulder marker, w&t
 □ Row 2 (WS): p to six sts before right shoulder marker, w&t
 □ Row 3: k to wrapped st, k wrap tog with st, k3, w&t

□ Row 4: p to wrapped st, p wrap tog with st, p3, w&t
 □ Rep last two rows once more
 □ Rejoin to k in the rnd and k one rnd, k wraps and st tog as they appear
 □ Next rnd: p to end
 □ Next rnd: k to end
 □ Rep last two rnds twice more
 □ Cast off loosely pwise

To make up

Place stitches from underarm back on two needles. Pick up one extra stitch at each end for each needle. Graft underarm sts using Kitchener St (see page 91). Weave in all loose ends, block sweater to measurements according to ball band **LK**

*coming
next issue*

CASUAL SWEATER BY
LINDA PARKHOUSE

May issue on sale Friday 11th April





TEA Break

Catch up with the rest of the LK community over a nice pot of tea and a hot cross bun!

Knitters on THE NET

Here's what some of our fabulous online followers have been fashioning:



I just finished these little owl fingerless mittens for my granddaughter today. She was absolutely delighted with them. **Sheila Dorothy Rowley**



@Letsknitmag
tweeted

Where is the best place to meet with your knitting group?

You responded:

Our group meets in a cosy coffee shop that opens in the evening for us. So we get to enjoy lovely drinks and snacks.

@AnnKingstone

I've just started a knitting group at my church, over 23 of us enjoyed the first two meetings. Coffee, cake & knitting, perfect :-)

@Knitting_Boo

Has to be a roomy cafe with great cake!!

@vickymcreations

The pub
@Reefgirl

In our own homes
@JackieParker25

Why I ♥ my local yarn shop

"They never wince when I arrive armed with another foreign pattern that I simply must knit. They get on with deciphering which weight yarn I should be using so I can adapt the pattern for my use and then enjoy choosing my yarn from the wonderful selection."

Amanda Chamberlain



Let us know why you love your local yarn shop by emailing

katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk



Knitted dog and rabbit in Sirdar Baby Crofter
Julie Kearney

Finished these heart mittens recently. **Helen Crutchley**



This weekend's knit. **Gail Waterworth**



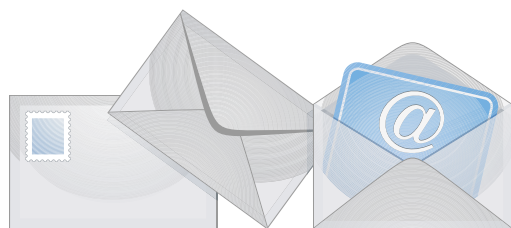
My knitted remote control holder.
Mandy Hoole

Upload and win!

Our Star Make winner has won a copy of The Crochet Flower Box book and kit (RRP £14.99, published by Search Press). Next month the winner receives six balls of Stylecraft's new Stars DK yarn.

www.searchpress.com, www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk





Read & relax

Get involved!

Send tips and letters to
Let's Knit, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY or email katie.wilding@aceville.co.uk

Write and win!

The prize for this month's fabulous star letter is two pattern books from MillaMia.



Over to YOU!

Rhyme time

On Wednesday
'Let's Knit' I bought,
"What exciting things to
make", I thought,
There it was... 'Scales'
the scarf,
It would give Hayden my
grandson a laugh.
Adrienne said "feel free to customise",
And not just merely on the size,
So away I went, needles alight,
I just hope it doesn't give Hayden
a FRIGHT!

Liz Ward, Kent

Wow, Liz! Thanks for the photo of your customised Scales and the poem to go with it! We hope Hayden likes his new scarf. He's a lucky boy!



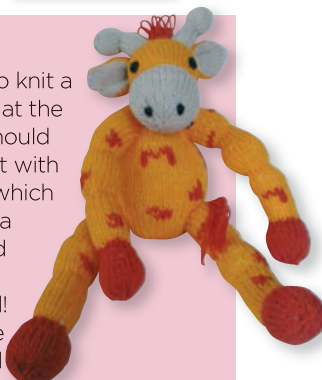
Star
letter

Dennis returns!

Before Christmas my daughter asked me to knit a giraffe for her to give her boyfriend's sister at the baby shower on 1st February. Then what should appear but the January edition of Let's Knit with Dennis the Giraffe? He looked very butch, which appealed to our sense of humour! As he is a baby gift I have toned him down a bit. Mind you, I expect that there will be requests for more and they will be more like the original! I modified the pattern by Swiss darning the patches and incorporating the baby's initial into the patch on his chest. He was very easy to knit and I completed him in three evenings. I love your magazine and find lots to knit from every issue. If only there were more than 24 hours a day and more than 7 days a week!

Celia Pickles via email

Dennis is an all-round favourite and we love your personalised version, Celia! We're sure the new mother will appreciate the special gift for her baby.



Miniature knitwear

I thought you might like to see this photo of my granddaughter who works for Age Concern UK. These are the 125 woollen hats I knitted for her towards the Sainsbury's Big Knit for Innocent drinks. This was taken when she came over in November and she took them to her work on her return. I love your magazine and it inspires me to knit different things instead of just toys for charity.

Yvonne Blair, Jersey

That's an impressive contribution to the Big Knit, Yvonne! Your granddaughter must have been very proud to return to work with all those hats!



Vintage knits

Reading Let's Knit January 2014, I was surprised to see in the article 'National Heritage' the Sirdar pattern of the crochet dress. I made one in 1969/70 and wore it many times. I still have the dress and pattern but unfortunately it doesn't fit me now. I also have a dress I knitted from a Robin pattern at about the same time. In the days of short miniskirts it didn't take long to make them!

Marian Saunders, Somerset

Thanks for sharing your old knits with us, Marian. We bet you didn't expect to see your dress making an appearance in a magazine 45 years after you made it!



Back to business

A few months ago I had a serious accident which caused damage to ten tendons and nerves to my arm and hand. I thought it would probably be the end of my knitting days. I have been having treatment for my injury but a few weeks ago I decided to pick up my needles. I was very slow and nervous but I managed to knit a scarf and continued to knit other items. The purpose of this letter is to give inspiration to others knitters that if you really want to do something, don't give in. I am so glad I had the courage to pick up my needles again.

G Griffin, West Midlands

We're so glad to hear that you've been able to return to knitting after your accident. We're sure other readers will be inspired by your determination. Good luck with your next knitted projects!

Tip of the month

Forget multi-tasking when lace knitting. You need to be focused and not distracted. Use lifelines and place markers between pattern repeats.

LESLEY BAMBRIDGE VIA EMAIL

Printed tips win a £10 voucher to spend online at Black Sheep Wools



Hatty's helping out

Having not knitted for more than half a century, I bought LK because our church group has been asked to make small, safe, soft toys for babies and small kiddies in eastern Europe who have been abandoned, unwanted and traumatised. The staff in the orphanages say that if these children have some small toy, they are comforted and have something that belongs only to them. The February issue of LK had a free yarn kit of a toy elephant so I thought I'd give it a try and have ordered a subscription for a while. Hopefully you will print more patterns of small toys and, what's more, I was delighted to find inside a "Knit school" - just what I need! Let's see how I get on.

Mary Mansell

It's wonderful that Hatty will be used towards such a great cause. We hope you enjoyed our collection of patterns for woodland toys that came with the March issue. Good luck with the toys, Mary!

NET Natter

News from the forum

I made this extra large cowl for my friend. She's an 86-year-old Spanish lady who's a big force behind the village WI. She has just invested in a motorised mobility scooter but the cold gets to her poor neck and shoulders so I made her this and she loves it.

Aisles



I made this little owl from small pieces of odd wool. My granddaughter wanted it and I didn't write the pattern down. I'll try another one whilst I remember it.

Crafty Nannie



Sign up to our forum www.homecraftforums.com to find like-minded knitters and crocheters and enter our challenges

NEXT FORUM CHALLENGE: knit a piece of food you'd take to a picnic



I'm into knitting small things. I like the instant gratification!

Thistledown

Question OF THE MONTH



Last month we asked if you regularly visit a yarn shop and 73% of you said yes! Here's what you had to say on the matter:

I'm a bit of both. MOSTLY order online. We do have a local shop here that sells yarn, and as I make a lot of toys and they stock the Robin Value DK 100g balls I often get the basics there. BUT if I need more specific colours I would be back to online orders.

Astrid the Crafty

I do like to go online when I'm feeling a bit strapped for time, but at the weekends I often like to pop into town and visit

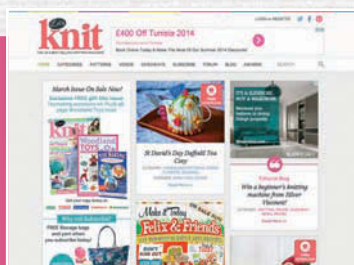
my local yarn shops, with three being quite local. Lucky me! It definitely helps when I've come across a knitting emergency, and there have been a few... and I've only been knitting since December! Oh well. Scarves away!

Jecelyn Latimer

I look online a lot, but mostly use local shops to purchase. I have been very lucky lately though as I have won lots from comps so need very little else to keep me busy.

Bud10

This month we'd like to know if you have ever been to a knitting workshop or class? Let us know at www.letsknit.co.uk/poll and we'll reveal the statistic next month!



Come and join us on Facebook! Visit www.facebook.com/letsknitmag



Purls of WISDOM

By Claire Thomas

Teenage Rebellion

My mum is visiting for a week. I like this because I don't have to do the childcare run, cook dinner or Hoover. In the miraculous parallel universe of the maternal visit, my role is to go to work, to drink the cups of tea with which I am regularly presented, and to engage in long rambling conversations while I knit.

This time, we are talking about my mum's enormous collection of crafty maiden aunts. About Auntie Lucie, whose handbag was always full of knitting and chocolate, sometimes with a lipstick rakishly stuck in the middle for easy retrieval. About lugubrious Auntie Gertie, who ate cream cakes by the baker's crate and, despite living to a ripe old age, was always predicting her own imminent death. About how I remind my mum of both of them, not solely because of my propensity for cream cakes and Rimmel lipstick, but because they were both massive crafters, lovers of knitting

and crochet respectively. Flanked by these astounding women, my mother's misspent 1960s youth was marked by wide rib knitted mini skirts, skinny rib jumpers and a dress handmade entirely of navy and white crocheted hexagons.

And this got me thinking wistfully about those decades when it was cheaper to make than to buy, when only the richest could afford to buy their look ready made off a shop shelf, even if that shelf was Chelsea Girl, and teenage magazines like Jackie urged their readers to set to and sew their own tiered skirts, crochet their own granny square bag, and even knit their own full English breakfast themed hat. (Some of these ideas were more successful than others. Even Cara Delevingne can't style out a knitted fried egg above the ear.)

Now I'm not suggesting that the results were always flawless. It's the mindset I miss. If you can buy



your whole look ready made in H&M for less than the cost of a night out, why would anyone but the most devoted, naturally talented crafters turn to and make? It means an awful lot of cackhanded teenagers probably look a lot better than they otherwise would, but it's also depriving them of an awful lot of satisfaction, of the chance to watch your skills improve with practice, of the ability to make yourself a little piece of bespoke, unique joy. They're missing out, just like I missed out at their age

"I will delete their WhatsApp accounts, cast their iPhones aside and give them needles and hooks instead."

because those maiden great-aunts of mine didn't live long enough to teach me to knit with their own capability and skill.

And so, I'm going for it. I'm

going to inspire my teenage cousins to break the tyranny of River Island. I will wrest their One Direction branded scarves from their twitchy texting hands and get them excited about their latent abilities. I will delete their WhatsApp accounts, cast their iPhones aside and give them needles and hooks instead, and watch them grow, and gain, and blossom. I won't do it all at once, of course - I have no wish to be the coroner's first case of death by a rosewood knitting needle through the kidney - but it will happen. And though they don't know yet, they'll thank me for it.

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group Knit Pickers.

LET'S KNIT HOMEWARES PATTERNS

Allotment is
Nicola Valiji's fabulous
gift set for any gardener

More commonly known in the knitting world as Knitola, Nicola Valiji is recognised for her cute greeting cards and kits.

This is her first project for LK and we love the little details that complete this garden-inspired teacosy. The card features the vegetable barrow shown on one side of the teacosy, but you could also make a card with the shed design too. There's a lot of sewing up involved but take your time to ensure a professional finish.

START KNITTING ON P66

GARDEN
THEMED
GIFT SET

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

To fit: standard four-cup teapot

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK, (A) shade 294 Bottle Green, (B) shade 202 Powder Blue, (C) shade 361 Brown, one 50g ball of each, (D) shade Orange, (E) shade Red, (F) shade Pink, (G) shade Black, (H) shade Lime Green, (I) shade Cream, (J) shade Purple, (K) shade Yellow, small amounts of each

Needles: 3mm, 3.5mm

Tapestry needle

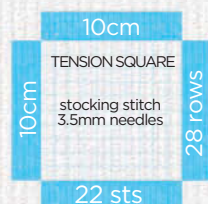
Toy stuffing

Stitch holders

Buttons: brown, 1.5cm, one, 3cm, two

Card and envelope

PVA glue



ABOUT THE YARN

Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK is one of Sirdar's oldest yarns. It blends acrylic and nylon, so can be machine washed and tumble dried – ideal in the event of any splashes or spills. It comes in 28 colourways.

Need an alternative yarn?

As the embellishments on this project only use small amounts of yarn, you could use any DK from your stash. Remember, natural fibres help to insulate heat so would be a good choice for a teacosy.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe DK costs £2.39 per 50g (135m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



START KNITTING HERE

TEACOSY

Using 3.5mm needles and yarn A cast on 104 sts

❑ Rows 1-6: beg with a k row, work in st st

❑ Row 7 (picot): k1, (yfwd, k2tog) to last st, k1

❑ Rows 8-14: beg with a p row, work in st st

❑ Row 15: k50, turn

Place rem 54 sts on a holder and cont on these 50 sts

❑ * Beg with a p row, work 11 rows in st st

Change to yarn B

❑ Beg with a k row, work 12 rows in st st *

Place these 50 sts on separate holder

❑ With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem 54 sts, cast off four sts, k to end. 50 sts

❑ Rep from * to *

❑ Cut yarn

❑ With RS of both pieces facing, rejoin yarn and k50 from holder, then k50 from LH

needle. 100 sts

❑ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st

SHAPE TOP

❑ Next row: (k3, k2tog) to end. 80 sts

❑ Next and all WS rows: p

❑ Next RS row: (k6, k2tog) to end. 70 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k5, k2tog) to end. 60 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k4, k2tog) to end. 50 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k3, k2tog) to end. 40 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k2, k2tog) to end. 30 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts

❑ Next RS row: (k2tog) to end. Ten sts

❑ Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Side one Shed

Using 3mm needles and

yarn C, cast on 30 sts

❑ K two rows

❑ Beg with a p row, work 25 rows in st st

❑ Next row (RS): k1, k2tog, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1

❑ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to last three sts, p2tog, p1

❑ Rep last two rows until five sts rem

❑ Next row: k2tog, k1, k2tog. Three sts

❑ Next row: sl 1, p2tog, psso. One st

❑ Fasten off

Shed door

Using 3mm needles and yarn G, cast on 12 sts

❑ K two rows

❑ Beg with a k row work 18 rows in st st

❑ Cast off

Shed roof (make two)

Using 3mm needles and yarn G, cast on 20 sts

❑ K one row

❑ P one row

❑ Cast off



Each side of the teacosy features a different design

- Rep Rows 2-3 three times more
- Change to yarn I
- Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st
- Next row: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts
- Next row: p
- Rep last two rows once more. Four sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Bee

- Using 3mm needles and yarn K, cast on eight sts
- Row 1: kfb in each st. 16 sts
- Using yarn G, p one row
- Using yarn K, k one row
- Rep last two rows twice more
- Change to yarn G
- Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
- Next row: (k2tog) to end. Four sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Worm

- Using 3mm needles and yarn C, cast on four sts
- K until piece meas 5cm
- Cast off

Side two Wheelbarrow

- Using 3mm needles and yarn C, cast on 16 sts
- Row 1: kfb, k to last st, kfb
- Row 2: p
- Rep last two rows until there are 30 sts, ending after a WS row
- Cast off

Wheelbarrow handle

- Cast on 15 sts and work as for Shed roof

Marrow

- Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 14 sts
- Row 1: k
- Row 2: p
- Row 3: using yarn H, k
- Change to yarn A
- Row 4: p
- Rep Rows 1-4 four times
- Cast off

Pumpkin

- Using 3mm needles and yarn D, cast on eight sts
- Row 1: p
- Row 2: kfb in each st. 16 sts
- Rows 3-4: rep Rows 1-2. 32 sts
- Beg with a p row, work seven rows in st st
- Next row: (k2tog) to end. 16 sts
- Change to yarn H
- Next row: p
- Next row: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Potatoes (make two)

- Using 3mm needles and yarn C, cast on six sts
- Beg with a k row, work six rows in st st
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

knitwise

PRETTY PICOT The decorative edging on the teacosy is known as mock picot – that means it looks like a picot edge, but is much less fiddly. To do it, cast on as normal, then work six rows in stocking stitch. The next row is your eyelet row and is the most important part in your mock picot edge. Once this is complete, continue in stocking stitch as instructed. During the making up, fold the work at the eyelet row and slip stitch the cast-on edge to the wrong side of your knitting. The eyelets will give the impression of points and create the picot effect.

Carrots (make two)

- Using 3mm needles and yarn D cast on three sts
- Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st
- Next row: kfb in each st. Six sts
- Beg with a p row, work five rows in st st
- Change to yarn H
- Next row: k
- Next row: (p2tog) to end. Three sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Sweetcorn

- Using 3mm needles and yarn K cast on eight sts
- Row 1: (k1, p1) to end
- Row 2: (p1, k1) to end
- Rep last two rows eight times more
- Next row: (k2tog) to end. Four sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Leaves

- Using 3mm needles and yarn H cast on ten sts
- Beg with a k row, work nine rows in st st
- Next row: (p2tog) to end. Five sts
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Window box

- Using 3mm needles and yarn G, cast on eight sts
- K two rows
- Next row (RS): kfb, k to last st, kfb. Ten sts
- Next row: p
- Rep last two rows once more. 12 sts
- Cast off

Window box flowers

- NOTE:** make one each in yarns B, D, E, F and K
- Using 3mm needles, cast on six sts
- K one row
- Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Hedgehog

- Using 3mm needles and yarn C cast on eight sts
- Row 1: kfb in each st. 16 sts
- Row 2: (k1, p1) to end
- Row 3: (p1, k1) to end

KEEP KNITTING ON P68

Aubergine

Using 3mm needles and yarn J, cast on four sts

- ❑ Row 1: kfb in every st. Eight sts
- ❑ Row 2: p
- ❑ Row 3: (k1, kfb) to end. 12 sts
- ❑ Rows 4-6: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ❑ Row 7: (k1, k2tog) to end. Eight sts
- ❑ Rows 8-10: beg with a p row, work in st st
- Change to yarn H
- ❑ Row 11: k
- ❑ Row 12: (p2tog) to end. Four sts
- ❑ Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Cauliflower

Using 3mm needles and yarn I, cast on eight sts

- ❑ Row 1 (RS): p
- ❑ Row 2: kfb in each st. 16 sts
- ❑ Beg with a p row, work six rows in st st
- ❑ Next row: (p2tog) to end
- ❑ Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

LEAVES

Using 3mm needles and yarn H cast on six sts

- ❑ K 20 rows
- ❑ Cast off

To make up

Turn Teacosy inside out so WS is facing. Fold at picot row, and slip stitch cast-on edge to inside of teacosy. Using your teapot as a guide, sew up both sides leaving enough room for the spout and handle. Turn right way out

SIDE ONE

Lightly press Shed, door, roof and window box to prevent curling. Pin shed in middle of cosy 2cm from picot edge. Sew in place. Pin door, shed roof and window box into position. Sew in place. Attach button for door knob. Gather flower piece and sew from middle of flower to cast-on edge. Using yarn H, sew five straight stitches from top of window box. Sew flowers to top of stems

ANIMALS

Using yarn tail, sew row-ends of Hedgehog, leaving end open for stuffing. Stuff, then sew running stitch around cast-on edge, pull tight to gather. Secure and weave in ends. Embroider eyes and nose. Attach Hedgehog beside shed door. Sew row-ends of Bee, taking care to match stripes. Lightly stuff. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge, pull tight and fasten off. Sew two eyes and attach two separate loops of yarn for wings. Stitch Bee to top of Shed roof. Join row-ends of Worm, sew running stitch around cast-on and cast-off edges, gather each end and secure. Sew two small eyes on to head of Worm. Sew Worm on other side of Shed from Hedgehog

SIDE TWO

Lightly press Wheelbarrow and Wheelbarrow handle. Pin Wheelbarrow to Teacosy, angling front end upwards.

Sew along sides and bottom of barrow, leaving top open. Pin and sew handle in place in top right corner. Stitch button to bottom corner edge of barrow, with bottom of button 1cm from picot edge

VEGETABLES

Sew row-ends together, leaving cast-on edges open, then stuff. Sew running stitch around cast-on edges, pull tightly to gather. Weave in ends on Potatoes, Marrow, Sweetcorn, Cauliflower and Aubergine. For Carrots and Pumpkin, tie yarn tail into a bow for vegetable tops. For Pumpkin, sew long lines from top of cast-off edge to bottom using yarn H. Place Sweetcorn inside leaves and sew leaves from cast-off edge to top leaving corn sticking out of top. Place leaves around Cauliflower, leaving the top poking out and sew in place. Place all vegetables poking out from Wheelbarrow as shown, then sew in place



The wheelbarrow and vegetables make a brilliant, original card design to send to a keen kitchen gardener!



"The vegetable and shed designs could also be used to make a garden-inspired cushion or a panel on a blanket."

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

CARD

- ❑ Make Wheelbarrow, Wheelbarrow handle and all vegetables as for Teacosy

To make up

Lightly press Wheelbarrow and Wheelbarrow handle. Glue Wheelbarrow on to card, with front edge angled upwards and leaving top edge open. Glue handle in place in the top right corner. Glue button at bottom corner edge of Wheelbarrow, with bottom of button 1cm from edge of card. Make up vegetables as for Teacosy. Glue in place. Leave glue to dry before handling card **LK**

coming
next issue

LEAF FLOWER CUSHION BY
HELEN ARDLEY

Issue 79 of Let's Knit on sale
Friday 11th April



Join the world's busiest online craft community today! www.busymitts.com

Giveaways

Look at these incredible prizes worth almost £1,000!

five to win!

Quick Icelandic Knits

We have five copies of Quick Icelandic Knits (RRP £10.99, Search Press) up for grabs! This fantastic book teaches traditional Icelandic techniques, as well as tips for felting and knitting in the round. Search Press is also offering a discount of £1, and free UK postage to LK readers. Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Let's Knit'. For more information, go to www.searchpress.com ☒ Icelandic



A lion's share

Fancy topping up your yarn supply? We have a rather handsome bundle of Lion Brand yarns to be won – worth £70! This prize includes iconic Lion Brand yarns such as Hometown USA, Wool-Ease, and Amazing. Check out the full range at

☒ Lion

www.deramores.com

Bergere beauties

The lovely people at Cocoon Knits are kindly giving two of our readers the chance to win a fabulous prize! Each winner receives a Fair Isle Tank Top pattern by Bergere de France, along with an accompanying eight balls of Caline yarn, a knitting calculator, and a tape measure – worth £35 each! What more could you possibly need? For more information on these products, visit www.cocoonknits.co.uk

☒ Bergere



Win amazing goodies!

worth £77



Clover clogs

It's a known fact that knitters love their gadgets and notions so we are giving away a bundle of Clover goodies to three winners. Each prize includes a Pattern Chart Marker Set, a Pom-Pom Maker, a Single Needle Felting Tool and more! For information on any of these products, contact

clover@stockistenquiries.co.uk

☒ Clover

worth £170



Rowan heaven

Isn't it every knitter's dream to have an overflowing stash of beautiful yarns? We're giving one incredibly lucky reader the chance to achieve this dream with a mixed bundle of Rowan yarns – worth £170! To learn more about Rowan, call 01484 681881 or visit www.knitrowan.com

☒ Rowan

Online giveaways worth £375!

We have even more fantastic prizes to be won! These giveaways can only be entered online at www.letsknit.co.uk.

● Ten pairs of tickets to Creative Stitches & Hobbyscrafts, featuring Fashion Embroidery & Stitch, London, 3rd-5th April. www.ichfevents.co.uk

● Ten pairs of tickets to The Creative Crafts Show, Shepton Mallet, 24th-27th April. www.sccshows.co.uk

● Two Jenny Watson pattern books worth almost £15, www.jennywatsondesigns.co.uk

Let's Knit

Giveaway form

To enter our giveaways, just tick the box (or boxes) corresponding to the prize you want to win and send your entry to us, to arrive no later than 21/04/14. **Mark your envelope:** Let's Knit, April Giveaways, PO Box 443, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8WG

☐ Icelandic ☐ Rowan
☐ Lion ☐ Bergere
☐ Clover

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This competition is open to all UK residents aged 18 or over, excluding employees or agents of the associated companies and their families. The prize detailed in each competition cannot be exchanged for goods, or towards the purchase of goods at any retail outlet. It cannot be exchanged for cash, or replaced if lost or damaged. Illegible entries and those that do not abide by these T&Cs will be disqualified. Prizes must be taken as stated and cannot be deferred. The decision of the judge is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Winners will be notified by 01/05/14, a list of winners will be available on request in writing from Andrea Turner, 21/23 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

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5



Mins with...

**Sue Morgan,
owner of Get Knitted**



Get Knitted was born from a passion for yarn.

A frustration of not finding what I wanted in the UK coupled with a childhood dream of owning a wool shop, and Get Knitted was started!

You can never beat the inspiration of walking into your local yarn store, or the personal touch of face-to-face advice. We are lucky enough to have a huge shop with several settees and free tea and coffee, which creates a whole new experience. Some people come and stay all day! 'Other halves' are frequently seen with their feet up and a paper relaxing while their partners look around.

The new ranges of pure cottons that have just arrived for the spring season are all beautiful and perfect for knitting and crochet projects. King Cole Bamboo Cotton 4ply even caused a bit of a fight amongst the staff trying to get hold of it!

We're also really proud to stock Jillybean's hand-dyed yarns. Jill was a regular customer in the shop, and we loved her so much she had to join the staff. The yarns showcase her love of colour and fibre perfectly.

The workshops and knit and natter groups are really important. We have a group on Fridays and Saturdays, and both are a diverse mix and always welcome newcomers.

We're really looking forward to Yarn Shop Day – we're planning oodles of tea and cake, with yarn-tasting sessions, learn-to-knit classes and loads more!

Get Knitted is based in Bristol. Check out its incredible range of yarns at www.getknitted.com or call 0117 300 5211



WHAT'S IN Stare?



Get the hot gossip from a selection of Love Your Yarn Shop stores around the UK



Yo, ho ho!

Jolly Stitcher is a family-run business in Fareham Enterprise Centre in Hampshire. It stocks yarns from leading suppliers, including Rico, Rowan, Artesano, Manos Del Uruguay, Debbie Bliss, Sirdar and James C. Brett. Look out for free drinks and cake for Yarn Shop Day on 3rd May, as well as an ongoing knit and natter throughout the day!

For a **10% discount** on all yarn, just take the advert on p83 into the store (one discount per purchase).

01329 550595, www.jolly-stitcher.co.uk

Threading through

Based in Dumbarton in Scotland, Threads Wool Shop is a delightful little store with an excellent selection of yarns, including the popular Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino. The shop has a wonderful community spirit, so why not pop along to one of the crochet classes which take place every Thursday evening? There's nothing like learning a new skill, and with a beginners' class available, there's no excuse not to dust off your hook and give it a go. Call **01389 761385** for more information, or search for 'Threads Wool Shop, Dumbarton' on Facebook.



Direct to your door

McA direct has a wealth of knowledge on all things knitting. New for spring 2014 is Sirdar Cotton DK. Its fashionable colours are perfect for lace knitting or summer crochet. Get one 100g ball for £5.95, or this gorgeous crochet pattern (Sirdar 7075) for £2.50. For more information, call the Edinburgh store on **0131 558 1747** or visit **www.mcadirect.com**

Wishing well

After recently combining two stores, The Knitting Well in Shaftesbury is a beautiful shop which stocks a range of good quality yarns, including James C. Brett, Bergere de France and Adriafil. It has recently stocked new spring/summer 2014 collections, including the delightful summer tweed from Debbie Bliss, Juliet, and King Cole's funky new bouclé yarn, Popsicle. The Knitting Well can be found at **1 Bell Street, Shaftesbury, SP7 8AR**. Alternatively, call **01747 854178** with any queries.



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE TOY PATTERNS

Itsy Bitsy

is a set of *three*
miniature beasts by
Lucinda Ganderton

Ideal for using up your stash then popping in your pocket, it's easy to fall in love with these three charismatic critters. Choose from a cheeky caterpillar, a bashful bumblebee or even a rather special spider. Why not use them to embellish existing makes such as teacosies for a quirky outdoors theme, or as part of a garden yarnbombing project in the summer? Please keep in mind that however sweet the trio may be, their small size makes them unsuitable for young children.



START KNITTING ON P72

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Caterpillar: 10cm long

Bumblebee: 5.5cm long

Spider: 6cm x 7cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: King Cole Dollymix DK, (A) shade 55 Gold, (B) shade 275 Spring Green, (C) shade 39 Shamrock, (D) shade 48 Black, (E) shade 46 Natural, (F) shade 9 Red and (G) shade 32 Wine, one 25g ball of each
Needles: 4mm straight
Tapestry needle
Safety toy stuffing/waste yarn

ABOUT THE YARN

King Cole Dollymix is an acrylic DK yarn with an incredible range of colours. Available in 25g balls, it's ideal for small projects.

Need an alternative yarn?

Any DK yarn from your stash will be sufficient to finish these projects. Why not go for a rainbow-coloured caterpillar, or a bright pink spider to appease more squeamish recipients?

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



King Cole Dollymix DK costs 69p per 25g (73m) from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk



"These little critters are just the right size to carry round in a pocket or pencil case. Stuff them with short lengths of spare matching yarn to make the bodies firm."

LK DESIGNER

LUCINDA GANDERTON



"These cute little friends are so quick to make and sure to put a smile on someone's face. Why not make one tonight and surprise a close friend?"

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS



START KNITTING HERE

CATERPILLAR Body

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on ten sts

❑ Beg with a k row, work six rows in st st

Join yarn A

❑ Rows 7-12: rep Rows 1-6

❑ Rows 13-18: using yarn B, rep Rows 1-6

❑ Rows 19-24: using yarn A, rep Rows 1-6

❑ Rows 25-28: rep Rows 1-4

❑ Row 29: (k2tog) five times. Five sts

❑ Row 30: p5

❑ Cut yarn leaving a 30cm tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

To make up

Stitch long edges of body together. Stuff lightly, then gather up open end - this is the head. Shape Body with a round of gathering stitches at each row where colours change

Antennae (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on four sts

❑ Cast off

Sew on Antennae then embroider eyes and mouth in straight stitch, using yarn D. Add a short white stitch in centre of each eye

SPIDER Body

Using 4mm needles and yarn G, cast on six sts

HEAD

❑ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st

❑ Row 3: k1, (kfb) four times, k1. Ten sts

❑ Rows 4-6: beg with a p row, work in st st

INCREASE FOR BODY

❑ Row 7: k1, (kfb) eight times, k1, pm. 18 sts

❑ Rows 8-14: beg with a p row, work in st st

❑ Row 15: (k2tog) nine times. Nine sts

❑ Row 16: p9

❑ Cut yarn leaving 30cm tail. Thread tail through rem sts, pull tight to fasten off

knitwise

STRONG STRIPES: When working a sequence of stripes, be sure to carry unused yarn up the side of the work, twisting the threads together every two rows. Not only does this save you weaving in your ends, but it is also much more economical.

Legs (make eight)

Using 4mm needles and yarn G, cast on four sts

❑ Rows 1-2: k

❑ Row 3: (k2tog) twice. Two sts

❑ Rows 4-9: beg with a p row, work in st st

❑ Cast off

To make up

Stitch long edges of Body together. Stuff lightly with yarn G, then gather up bottom end. Shape Body with a round of gathering stitches at increasing row where marker is placed. Shape foot on each leg by folding foot in half widthways and stitching through double layer. Sew top of legs around under Body, spacing them evenly. Use yarn F to embroider eyes in straight stitches, then use yarn D to outline and add a French knot to centre

BUMBLEBEE Body

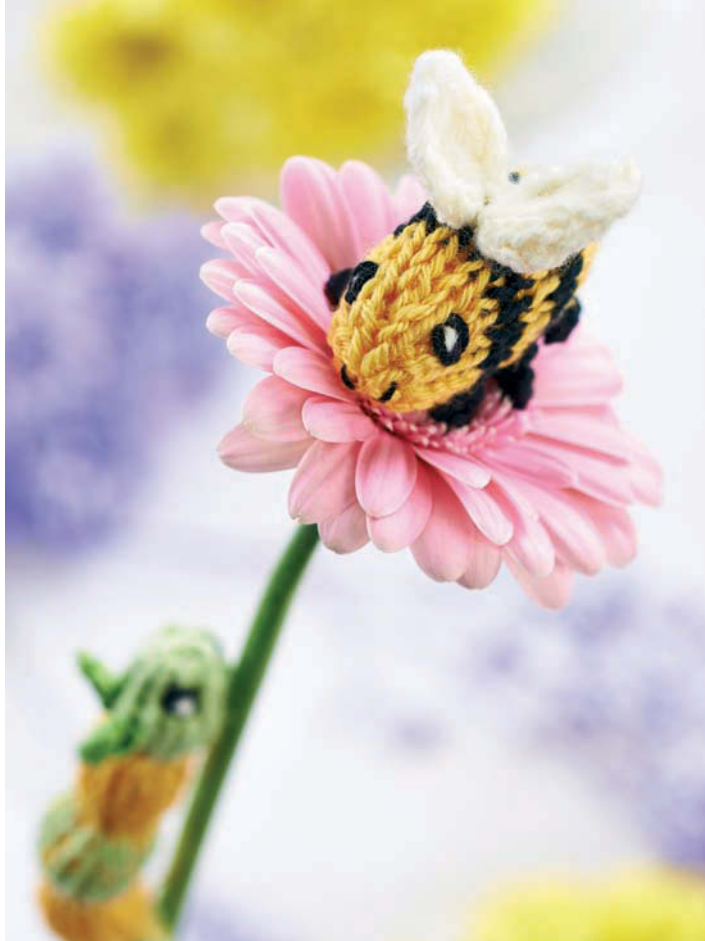
Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts

❑ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st

❑ Row 3: k1, (kfb) eight times, k1. 18 sts

❑ Row 4: p

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Join yarn D

- ❑ Rows 5-6: rep Rows 1-2
- ❑ Rows 7-8: using yarn A, rep Rows 1-2
- ❑ Rows 9-10: using yarn D, rep Rows 1-2
- ❑ Rows 11-14: using yarn A and beg with a k row, work in st st
- ❑ Row 15: (k2tog) nine times. Nine sts
- ❑ Row 16: p9
- ❑ Cut yarn leaving a 30cm tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Wings (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn E, cast on five sts

- ❑ Rows 1-2: beg with a k row, work in st st
- ❑ Row 3: k1, (kfb) three times, k1. Eight sts
- ❑ Rows 4-5: beg with a p row, work in st st
- ❑ Row 6: (p2tog) four times.

Four sts

- ❑ Row 7: (k2tog) twice. Two sts
- Cut yarn leaving a 30cm tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

Legs (make six)

Using 4mm needles and yarn D, cast on four sts

- ❑ Cast off

To make up

Stitch long edges of body together. Stuff using yarn A, then gather at bottom end. Sew wings to centre back, between black stripes. Sew three legs to each side of underbelly, placing first two in line with stripes. Embroider eyes and mouth in yarn D, then add a short white stitch to centre of each eye **LK**

coming next issue

FLOWER BUTTONHOLES FOR WEDDINGS BY JANE BURNS

Issue 79 of Let's Knit on sale Friday 11th April



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These carefully chosen projects provide a wide variety of designs to suit all skill levels and tastes, and cover everything from quick makes for speedy presents and swift home decorating, to larger heirloom makes and keepsakes to love and cherish for generations. So whether you're looking to personalise your living room with a hand-stitched throw, soften your bedroom style with a selection of cushions or wanting to prepare for a newborn with a heritage blanket, you're certain to find inspiration amongst our **160 pages**.



MAKE IT TODAY: Felix & Friends



Felix & Friends is the first in the Make it Today series of kits from the publisher of Let's Get Crafting, Let's Knit, Crafts Beautiful and Sew magazines. Make it Today projects have been carefully selected so that they will appeal to all crafters: simple enough for beginners; enjoyable for accomplished creatives.

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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE BABY PATTERN

Binky is a cosy *baby blanket* to comfort your *bundle of joy*

A blanket is a baby necessity - they're practical and offer warmth, but are also symbolic of protection and safety. Designed by Sarah Hazell,

Binky is really straightforward, and an ideal pattern choice for a novice knitter or someone who is experimenting with colourwork for the first time. Binky is knitted in gorgeously soft yarn - perfect for the many cuddles it will provide over the years.

SUPER
QUICK
TO KNIT!

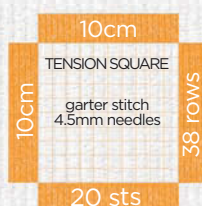
START KNITTING ON P76

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Approx 55cm x 75m

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Rowan Softknit Cotton, (A) shade Sunset Red, (B) shade Sand, two 50g balls of each, (C) shade Burnt Orange, (D) shade Indigo Blue, (E) shade Cream, (F) shade Walnut, (G) shade China, one 50g ball of each
Needles: 4.5mm
Crochet hook: 4mm



ABOUT THE YARN

Rowan Softknit Cotton is made from 92% cotton and 8% polyamide. It is machine washable – therefore perfect for baby knits, and creates a great stitch definition – which is ideal for the use of garter stitch in this knit.

Need an alternative yarn?

Rico Design Baby Cotton Soft DK is 50% cotton and 50% acrylic and comes in over 15 colours. It is also machine washable. It's slightly lighter in tension than the original yarn so you may need to adjust your needle size.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



10% off

Rowan Softknit Cotton costs £5.75 per 50g (105m) from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com
 For 10% off this yarn use the code LK78 at the checkout

Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK costs £2.75 per 50g (125m) from 01548 831911, www.hulucrafts.co.uk



START KNITTING HERE

Blanket

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 110 sts

NOTE: letter at beg of instruction denotes yarn colour

- (A) K five rows
- (B) K three rows
- (C) K five rows
- (D) K three rows
- (E) K five rows
- (F) K three rows
- (G) K five rows
- (A) K three rows
- (B) K five rows
- (C) K three rows
- (D) K five rows
- (E) K three rows
- (F) K five rows
- (G) K three rows
- Rep last 56 rows four times more
- (A) K five rows
- Cast off loosely on WS of work

To make up

Using 4mm crochet hook join yarn B with a sl st two sts in from row end edge

- Row 1: 1ch, 1dc in same place, 1dc in every foll row end 'bump' to end of row along long edge, turn
- Row 2: 1ch, 1dc in every dc to end of row, turn
- Rep last row four more times
- Fasten off

Slip stitch into place through corresponding stitch on other side of the blanket

- Rep on long edge on opposite side **LK**



crochet clever

DOUBLE CROCHET: To form the edging on your blanket you'll need to know how to use basic crochet stitches. For double crochet, start by putting the hook into the stitch where the double crochet is required, then wrap the yarn around the hook and draw a loop through the first stitch on the hook. There are now two loops on the hook. Wrap the yarn around the hook again and this time draw the loop through both stitches on the hook. There is now one loop on the hook and one double crochet has been made. Continue this process as instructed until you have a neat edge all along one side of the blanket.



"When I was small, I had a baby blanket made from a section of my mum's silk wedding dress. It was incredibly personal and extra comforting. A handmade blanket is always a little bit special."

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT ABBIE HENDERSON

coming next issue

BONUS BOOKLET OF
 BABY KNITS

Issue 79 of Let's Knit on sale
 Friday 11th April



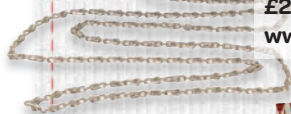
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direct.com)



1 Wendy Merino – shade Seaspray, costs £3.25 per 50g (116m) ball from **01803 524402**, www.knittingwooland yarn.co.uk

2 James C. Brett Double Knitting with Merino – shade Pale Blue, costs £2.99 per 100g (290m) from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

3 Red Heart Soft – shade Ice Blue, costs £2.19 per 100g (167m) ball from **0800 488 0708**, www.deramores.com **For 10% off all orders at Deramores turn to page 19.**

4 Rowan Truesilk – shade Whisper, costs £11.50 per 50g (150m) ball from **0117 300 5211**, www.getknitted.com

5 Stylecraft Weekender Super Chunky – shade Duck Egg, costs £3.60 per 100g (100m) ball from www.thewoolloft.co.uk

6 Cashmered – shade Pale Aqua, costs £12.95 per 25g (160m) ball from **01242 256797**, www.cashmered.net

7 Fyberspates Scrumptious Lace – shade Water, costs £15.29 per 100g (1000m) skein from **0845 576 0007**, www.loveknitting.com **For 10% off all orders at LoveKnitting turn to the inside front cover.**

8 Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear – shade Duck Egg, costs £2.39 per 50g (135m) ball from **01926 882818**, www.woolwarehouse.com



LOVE YOUR Yarn Shop

We catch up with some of the stores involved in the campaign!

The list of stores participating in our Love Your Yarn Shop campaign is growing by the day. We've been finding out why they wanted to be involved and what they've got planned for Yarn Shop Day on 3rd May.

Catherine Jackson, Twist & Purl, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire

"We've recently moved to larger premises and are going to be doing workshops too. The campaign is a good opportunity to promote our knitting. I'd like to do some taster sessions on the day, where people can try different crafts for free."

Contact: 01274 873279, www.twistandpurl.co.uk

Naomi Enrico, Creative Needles, Longhope, Gloucestershire

"I run a soft furnishing business, but four months ago, decided to introduce a knitting range. The campaign is a brilliant idea. I'm going to offer a 10% discount on the day. We've got a superb tearooms and are going to have stalls outside like a mini craft market. It will be a fun day, I'm just praying for nice weather!"

Contact: 01452 831725, www.enricointeriors.co.uk



Caroline Bradshaw, Butterfly Bright, Sherborne, Dorset

"We're quite new to selling yarn as we were previously a haberdashery shop, but it's going really well. We have lots of plans for Yarn Shop Day. We're going to have drop-in workshops and demonstrations throughout the day. The more people that know about us the better, so from our point of view it's brilliant. I think everybody needs a bit of support and we're really excited about it!"

Contact: 01935 817303, www.butterflybright.com



Judith Howard, Red Apple Yarn, Lampeter, Ceredigion

"For us, the shop isn't just about selling yarn. It's being part of a community of people that have similar interests. We want to say, 'Hello, we're here!' With the campaign, we can also promote British wool. There's some really good quality fibres out there and it seems silly not to support the local community and its farmers. This is what we want to be part of."

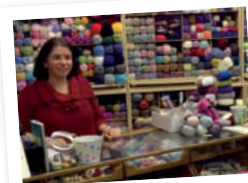
Contact: 01570 423715, www.redappleyarn.co.uk



Kate Willis, Knot Just Wool, Portsmouth, Hampshire

"We signed up because there are very few bricks and mortar shops in our area. We have two shops, Ann Louise in Portsmouth and Thistle in nearby Cowplain. We're very passionate about what we do and feel that if there's an event like this, we should support it as much as you support us!"

Contact: 02392 644242, www.knotjustwool.co.uk



Sue Amphlett, Cottontail Crafts, Settle, North Yorkshire

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Contact: 01729 822946, www.cottontailcrafts.co.uk



Jules Fallon, Sew Me Something, Stratford-Upon-Avon

"We want to let people know that we now stock yarn and the campaign can help us do that. We have people on hand to give advice and also do knitting and crochet workshops. For Yarn Shop Day, we want to have a coffee morning where people can come and learn to knit a cupcake."

Contact: 01789 330588, www.sewmesomething.co.uk



Turn to page 82 to find even more yarn stores who are getting involved in this fabulous campaign!

LOVE YOUR YARN SHOP PATTERN

Anna by West Yorkshire Spinners is a *cosy jumper* in two different styles

Whether your little girl is a cotton candy princess or a fearless adventurer – or both! –

Anna is sure to become a wardrobe favourite in no time. Knitted in pure Bluefaced Leicester from British yarn company West Yorkshire Spinners, who are supporting our Love Your Yarn Shop campaign. Julie Ferguson's design is extremely versatile, and perfect for playtime.

START KNITTING ON P80

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Call 01535 664500 or visit
www.wyspinners.com
for stockists



MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Age:					
0-6, mths	(6-12, mths)	1-2, yrs	2-3, yrs	3-4, yrs	4-5, yrs
To fit chest (cm):					
41	(46, 51,	56,	61,	66)	
Actual size (cm):					
45	(50, 54,	59,	63,	68)	

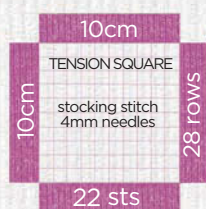
KNIT KIT

Yarn: West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced Leicester DK, Pink version: (A) shade Wild Rose, 2 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4) 50g balls, (B) shade Lavender, (C) shade Bluebell, (D) shade Sage, (E) shade Catkin, one 50g ball of each. Blue version: (A) shade Blueberry, 2 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4) 50g balls, (B) shade Avocado, (C) shade Cherry, (D) shade Aubergine, (E) shade Burnt Orange, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 4mm

Stitch holders: two

Tapestry needle



ABOUT THE YARN

For fans of 100% British wool, **West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced DK** is a luxuriously soft yarn which is spun right here in the UK. It is handwash only, and comes in a fantastic range of solid shades.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



West Yorkshire Spinners Bluefaced DK has an RRP of £4.85 per 50g (112m) ball. For your local stockist, go to www.wyspinners.com or call 01535 664500.

START KNITTING HERE

Back

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 50 (55, 60, 65, 70, 75) sts

□ ** K two rows

Cont in garter st in foll two-row stripe sequence:

□ Yarn B

□ Yarn C

□ Yarn D

□ Yarn E **

□ Change to yarn A and work two rows in st st

BASKETWEAVE SECTION

□ Row 1: * k5, p5, rep from * to last 0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5) sts, k0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5)

□ Row 2: * k5 (p5, k5, p5, k5, p5), p5 (k5, p5, k5, p5, k5), rep from * to last 0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5) sts, p0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5)

□ Rep Rows 1-2 twice more

□ Row 7: * p5, k5, rep from * to last 0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5) sts, p0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5)

□ Row 8: * p5 (k5, p5, k5, p5, k5), k5 (p5, k5, p5, k5, p5), rep from * to last 0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5) sts, k0 (5, 0, 5, 0, 5)

□ Rep Rows 7-8 twice more

FIRST SIZE ONLY

□ Rep Rows 1-6 once more

SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH SIZES ONLY

□ Rep Rows 1-12 - (1, 1, 2, 2, 3) times more, then Rows 1-16 - (0, 1, 0, 1, 0) times more

ALL SIZES

Change to Yarn C

□ K four rows

□ Next row: using yarn B, k16 (18, 20, 22, 24, 26), using yarn D k18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23), using yarn E, k16 (18, 20, 22, 24, 26)

□ Next row: using yarn E, k16 (18, 20, 22, 24, 26), using yarn

D, p18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23), using yarn B, p16 (18, 20, 22, 24, 26)

□ Next row: using yarn B, [k1, p1] 8 (9, 10, 11, 12, 13) times, using yarn D, k18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23), using yarn E, [k1, p1] 8 (9, 10, 11, 12, 13) times

□ Next row: using yarn E, [k1, p1] 8 (9, 10, 11, 12, 13) times, using yarn D, k18 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23), using yarn B, p16 (18, 20, 22, 24, 26)

□ Rep last four rows 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10) times more

□ Work from ** to ** as for Back

Change to yarn A

□ Cont in st st until work meas 30 (33, 36, 40, 43, 46) cm,

knitwise

COLOURING IN: When working large blocks of colour across the same row (as opposed to the more intricate stranded colourwork patterns found in Fair Isle or Scandinavian knitting), try using the intarsia method. Also known as 'picture knitting', this involves knitting the required number of stitches

in one colour, then introducing a new shade over the top of the working yarn, leaving a long tail to sew in later. Simply begin knitting with the new shade, leaving your first ball where it is. In this project you will have three colours on the go. Be sure to twist the yarns together each time you change colour, as this will prevent holes forming.



ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

❑ Cast off 7 (8, 9, 9, 10, 11) sts at beg of next four rows, leave rem 22 (23, 24, 29, 30, 31) sts on holder

Front

❑ Work as for Back until work meas 26 (28, 30, 34, 36, 39) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE NECK

❑ Next row: k20 (21, 23, 25, 27, 28) sts, leave rem sts on holder
❑ Dec one st at neck edge on every row until 14 (16, 18, 18, 20, 22) sts rem
❑ Cont without shaping until Front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending at side edge

SHAPE SHOULDERS

❑ Cast off 7 (8, 9, 9, 10, 11) sts at beg of next row
❑ Work one row
❑ Cast off rem 7 (8, 9, 9, 10, 11) sts
Place centre 10 (13, 14, 15, 16, 19) sts on to holder
❑ Rejoin yarn to rem sts and k to end of row
❑ Complete to match Back

Sleeves

❑ Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 38 (40, 42, 44, 46, 48) sts and work from ** to ** as for Back

Change to yarn A and cont in st st, working shaping as folls:

❑ Inc one st at each end of next row and every foll sixth row, until there are 52 (56, 60, 64, 68, 72) sts

❑ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 18 (20, 23, 25, 28, 34) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

❑ Cast off

Neckband

Join right shoulder seam, using 4mm needles and yarn A with RS facing, pick up and k 6 (8, 10, 12, 14, 16) sts down left front neck, k centre front 10 (13, 14, 15, 16, 19) sts from holder, k 6 (8, 10, 12, 14, 16) sts up right front neck, k centre back 22 (23, 24, 29, 30, 31) sts from holder. 44 (52, 58, 68, 74, 82) sts

❑ K one row

Cont in garter st in foll two-row stripe sequence:

❑ Yarn B

❑ Yarn C

❑ Yarn D

❑ Yarn E

❑ Yarn A

❑ Cast off

To make up

Join Left shoulder seam and neckband seam, sew in Sleeves, placing centre of Sleeves to shoulder seams.

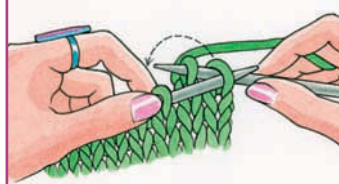
Join side and sleeve seams **LK**



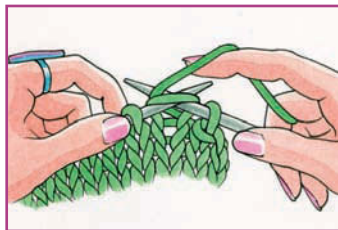
"When knitting intarsia colourwork, try to alternate the direction you turn your work at the end of each row, as this will keep your yarn from getting too tangled! It's a lesson I learnt the hard way..."

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS

Cast off



1 Knit two stitches as normal. Insert the tip of your left needle into the second stitch on the right needle (the stitch closest to you), and carefully lift it up and over the top stitch, dropping it off the tip of the right needle and pulling the yarn to tighten. You will be left with one stitch on the right needle.

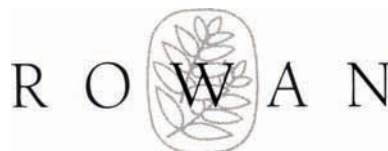


2 Knit another stitch and repeat the process in step one. Continue until you have one stitch remaining. Gently enlarge the loop. Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Slip the loop off the needle and pull the tail through, gently tugging it until it is tight. Your knitting should now be completely fastened off.





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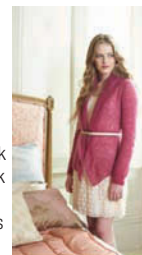
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Ambassador Erika Knight

"I am delighted to be an ambassador for the Let's Knit Love Your Yarn Shop campaign - it is inherent to my ethos to support our bricks and mortar stores - where the expertise, passion, hands on experience, sharing of ideas, advice and the odd cup of tea is vital to sustaining a thriving crafting community."

Get Involved!

The event, the first of its kind, is supported by the industry, and with extensive media coverage behind it promises to boost the profile of bricks and mortar yarn stores.

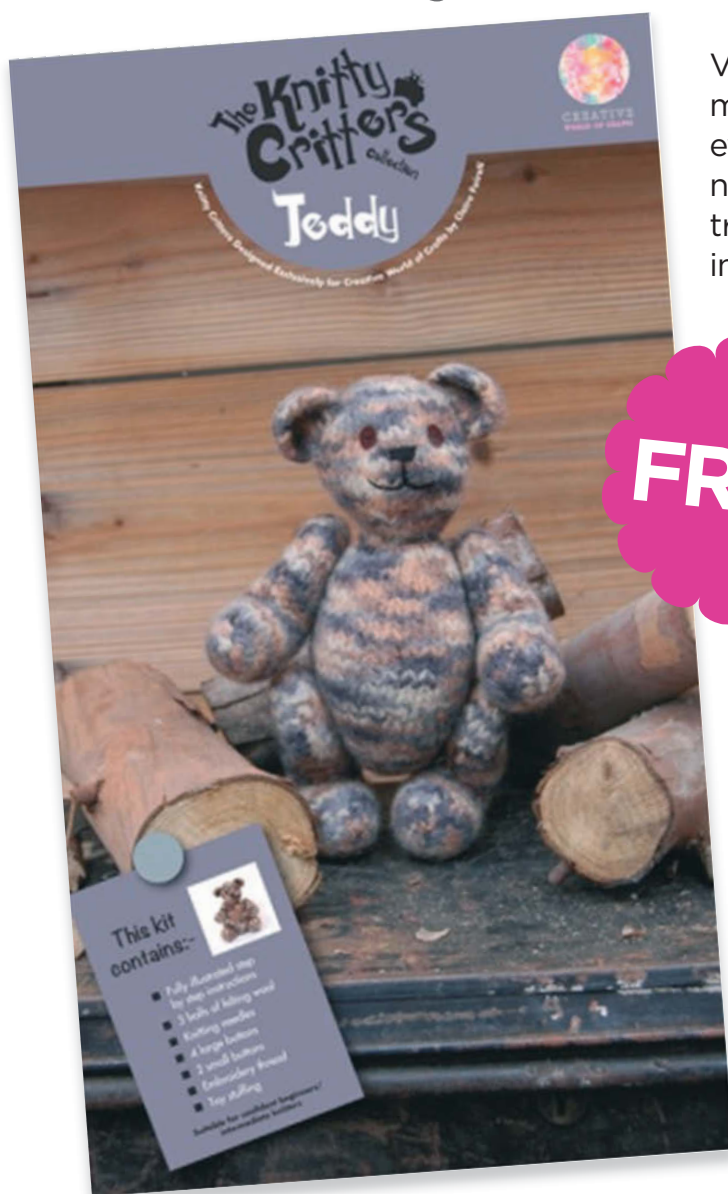
To get involved in the campaign and celebrate Yarn Shop Day!

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Turn the tables

Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

YARN WEIGHTS

YARN TYPE	STANDARD TENSION	STANDARD NEEDLE SIZE
Lace	30-33 sts-36-50 rows	2mm-3mm
4ply	28 sts-36 rows	3.25mm
DK	22 sts-28 rows	4mm
Aran	18 sts-24 rows	5mm
Chunky	14 sts-19 rows	6.5mm
Super Chunky	9 sts-12 rows	10mm

NEEDLE SIZING

UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/Canada
2	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4	6	8
4.5	7	7
5	8	6
5.5	9	5
6	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
15	-	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
20	36	-
25	50	-

"Using the correct size of needles for the yarn weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric"



Step on to the scales

Just like tension, the weight of yarn can greatly affect the outcome of your work – which is especially disorientating when, as with needle sizing, yarn weights differ from country to country. Here is a rough guide to US yarn weights and their equivalents

US TERM	UK EQUIVALENT
Light fingering	3 ply
Fingering	4 ply
Sport light worsted /DK	Light DK
Worsted	DK
Aran	Between DK and Aran
Bulky	Chunky
Super bulky	Superchunky

ABBREVIATIONS

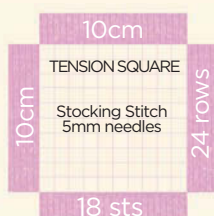
0	no stitches, times or rows	rm	remove marker
-	no stitches, times or rows for that size	RS	right side
alt	alternate	skpo	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
approx	approximately	sk2po	slip next stitch purlwise, knit two together, pass slipped stitch over and off needle
beg	beginning	sl 2, k1, p2sso	slip next two stitches knitwise at the same time, knit one, pass both slipped stitches over
bet	between	sl 1	slip one stitch
C4F	(cable 4 front) slip two stitches on to cable needle, hold at front of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sl st	slip stitch
C4B	(cable 4 back) slip two stitches onto cable needle, hold at back of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sm	slip marker
ch	chain stitch	ssk	one by one slip the next two stitches knitwise. Put your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
ch sp	chain space	st (s)	stitch (es)
circ	circular needles	st st	stocking stitch (k on RS row, p on WS row)
cm	centimetres	tbl	through the back loop (s)
cn	cable needle	tr	treble crochet
cont	continue (ing)	w & t	(on knit rows) take the yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn (on purl rows) take the yarn between the needles to the back of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn
dc	double crochet	ws	wrong side
dc2tog	(insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, pull through loop) twice, yarn over hook, pull through all three loops on hook	wyib	with yarn in back
dec	decrease (ing)	wyif	with yarn in front
dpn	double pointed needle	yb	yarn back
dtr	double treble crochet	yfwd	yarn forward (between knit stitches)
fol	following	yo	work yfwd/yon/yrn as appropriate
htr	half treble crochet	yoh	yarn over hook
inc	increase (ing)	yon	yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
k	knit	yrn	yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)
kfb	knit into the front and back of the next stitch	y2rn	wrap yarn twice around needle
k2tog	knit two stitches together	*	repeat instructions following the asterisk as many times as instructed
kwise	knitwise	()[]	work instructions inside the brackets as many times as instructed
lp	loop		
m1	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it		
m1p	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it		
meas	measure (s)		
mm	millimeters		
N1 (2, 3)	needle 1 (2, 3)		
p	purl		
pb	place bead		
pfb	purl into the front and back of next st		
pm	place marker		
p2tog	purl two stitches together		
prev	previous		
pssso	pass slipped stitch over and off needle		
p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over and off needle		
pwise	purlwise		
rem	remain (ing)		
rep	repeat (ing)		
rev st st	reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)		

ESSENTIAL INFO

Everything you need to start knitting now!

Tension headache

The tension square is not the most exciting part of any project but it's one of the most important, particularly where garments are concerned. Ensuring you have the correct number of stitches and rows across your 10cm swatch is crucial to getting the right measurements and a good fit. Here's how to do it:



■ Using the yarn and needles recommended in the pattern, cast on the number of stitches given in the tension square plus six more. In this case you would need to cast on a total of 24 stitches (18+6). Making sure your stitches are not too tight or too loose, and working a knit stitch at each end of every row to prevent curling, work in

stocking stitch unless another stitch is specified until the piece measures 14cm. Cast off

■ Each knitted stitch is signified by one complete 'V' shape, so lay a ruler horizontally across your swatch, use marker pins to indicate 10cm and count the number of stitches, including half stitches. Do the same with the rows. Now compare this to the recommended tension. If there are too many stitches your tension is too tight – switch to a larger set of needles and try again. Similarly, if there are too few stitches your knitting is too loose – try with smaller size needles.



SUBSTITUTION

Substituting the specified yarn for a different one can be an excellent solution to the problem of yarn that's hard to find or out of your price range, but you need to know the facts and avoid certain pitfalls!

■ Make sure the yarn you choose has a tension that's as close as possible to the yarn suggested for the pattern. It might be possible to correct slight variations by changing the needle size but too much difference will result in an odd looking fabric, so where possible substitute a DK weight yarn for another DK and so on.

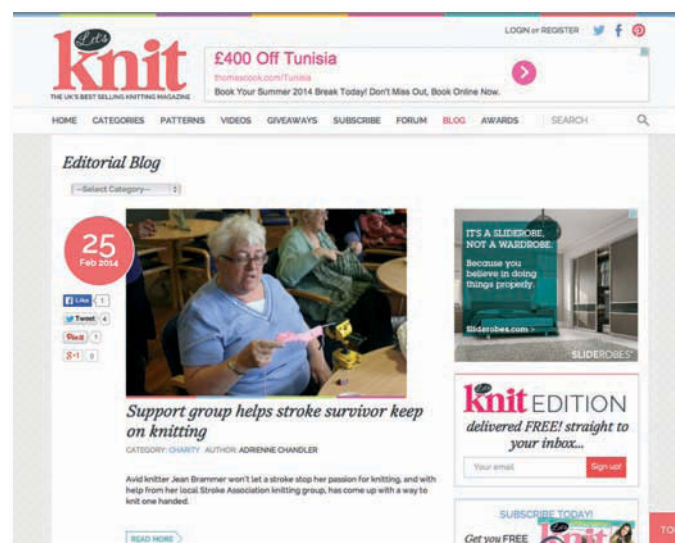
■ Give consideration to the content of the yarn and how this might affect the finished project. For example, a wool yarn knits up into a fabric that's warm and light whereas cotton is cooler and much heavier. Information on the properties of individual yarns is

available on the internet so do your research!

■ It seems like an obvious point but if your project will need to be washed often, ensure that the substitute yarn is water-safe (also known as 'superwash' or 'easycare'). If not it could shrink and felt beyond recognition!



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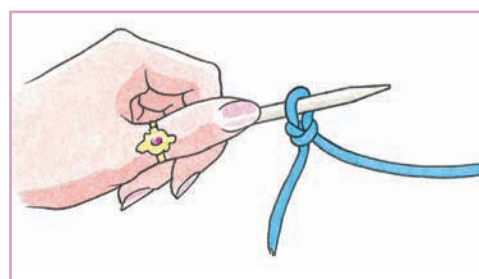
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Making a slip knot



1 Holding the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.



2 Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

Cast on

Casting on is the basis of all knitting. There are several different ways to do it, but the two-needle method shown below is often considered the simplest to master.



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.



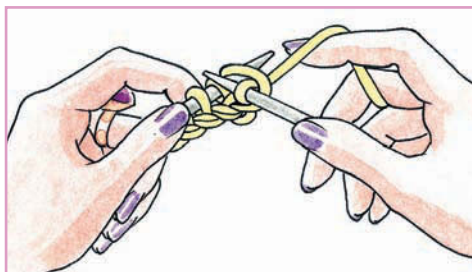
3 Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the left needle and returning the new stitches from the right to the left needle until you have the required number of stitches.

Knit stitch

Similar to the cast on method (above), the knit stitch is the staple of all knitting (hence the name). Shown below is the English knitting style.



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.

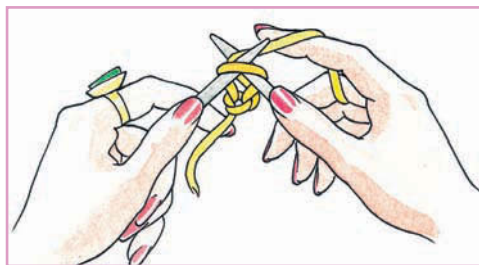


2 Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle.



3 Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.

Cable cast on



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.



3 Insert the right needle between the two stitches on the left needle and wrap the yarn around the needle tip anticlockwise. Draw this loop through to make a stitch and slip it up and onto the left needle. Repeat this creating a new loop behind the last stitch and passing it left needle in front of the previous one.

Purl stitch



1 With the ball end of the yarn at the front (toward you) insert the tip of the right hand needle into the front loop of the first stitch from the right to left and with the right hand needle in front of the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of the yarn anticlockwise around the right hand needle.



2 Draw the needle backwards and upwards, forming a new stitch on the right hand needle.



3 Once the new stitch has been formed on the right hand needle you can let the loop from the left needle slide off the end. Repeat until all the stitches have been purlled and you have complete the row.

Graft the toe



Kitchener Stitch is the method used to achieve this. It is worked as follows:

SET UP: Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

1 Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



2 Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.



3 Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.



4 Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

p42



Helping hand

If you need a refresher on basic knitting techniques, visit our website www.letsknit.co.uk. You can also find helpful advice in the Knitwise panels found throughout the magazine:

Backward loop cast-on:

Vionette, p42

Cast off: Anna, p80

Knit School: p49

p80



Final Stages

Finish your project like a pro

On the blocks

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

Wet blocking

Dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently push out excess water. Spread the sections out on a towel to air dry. Use a tape measure to ensure each part is the correct dimensions to that of the pattern and pin into the required shape.

For a more gentle option, try pinning it in place and lightly spritzing with a water spray. This is ideal

for really delicate materials like cashmere which can be damaged by too much water.

Steam iron blocking

Place a dampened cloth on top of the separate sections of your knitting. Work gently over this with a very hot iron, be careful not to let the iron come into direct contact with the knitting as it can damage the work. Continue to press the work until the cloth is dry and the knitted fibres have been loosened by the steam. Then, pin the pieces to the desired shape and measurements and leave to set.



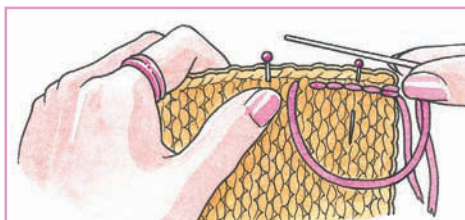
At a loose end?

Follow these steps for sewing in any loose ends:

- 1 Thread the yarn onto a tapestry needle and work with the WS of the knit facing upwards.
- 2 Insert the needle under the loop of each stitch, and draw it through. Work it up and down the loops of the stitches for 8cm.
- 3 Cut the yarn close to the fabric.
- 4 If you are weaving at a colour change, be sure to work the loose end into the corresponding colour to prevent it from being visible at the front of the work.

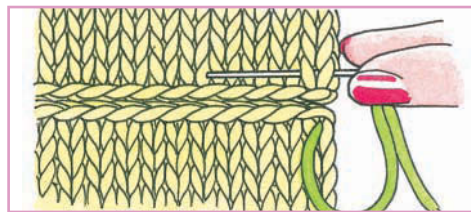


1 Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.

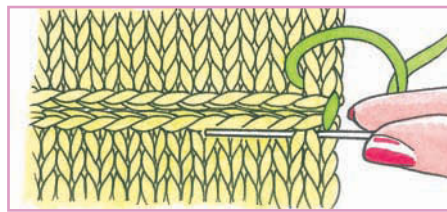


2 Push the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.

Joining cast off edges

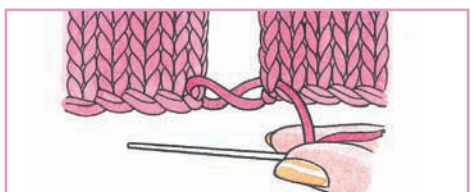


1 Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.

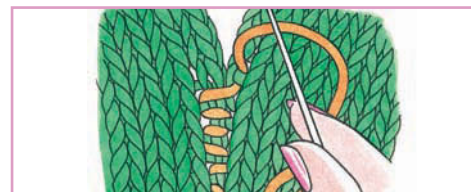


2 Take the needle over to the first side and insert where it previously exited, bringing it out through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.

Beginning a seam



1 With the pieces placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the yarn tail through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle behind the first stitch on the second piece from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.



1 With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side.

2 Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

Mattress stitch

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DISCLAIMER: We recommend that readers use the main specified yarn for every project as this will produce the best results. The alternatives given are suggestions only, and as no two yarns are exactly the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project. The publishers are not responsible for any safety issues arising from any items knitted from patterns contained within Let's Knit magazine.

VIONETTE CONT FROM P43

- ❑ Rnd 23: p22, k3, k2tog, yrn, p11
- ❑ Rnd 24: k. 11 sts between thumb markers

COMPLETE HAND

- ❑ Rnd 1: p2, rm, sl next 11 sts onto waste yarn, rm, cast on two sts using backward-loop method (see Knitwise on p42), pull yarn tight across to other side of thumb, p9, k2, k2tog, yrn, p12. 29 sts
- ❑ Rnd 2 and foll even-numbered rnds: k
- ❑ Rnd 3: p13, k1, k2tog, yrn, p13
- ❑ Rnd 5: p13, k2tog, yrn, p14
- ❑ Rnd 6: k

EDGING

- NOTE:** to work garter st on dpns, p one rnd, k one rnd
- ❑ Beg with a p rnd, work eight rnds in garter st
 - ❑ Cast off loosely

THUMB

- Place 11 sts from waste yarn on to dpns
- ❑ Pick up and k three sts along inside edge of thumb at join to rest of glove. 14 sts
 - ❑ Working on these 14 sts, join in the rnd and beg with a p

- row, work six rnds in garter st
- ❑ Cast off loosely
- Weave in ends, block to open up lace work

Left glove

- Using 4.5mm dpns, cast on 28 sts, pm and join in the round being careful not to twist sts
- ❑ Rnd 1: p12, (k1, p3) four times
 - ❑ Rnd 2: k12, (k1, p3) four times
 - ❑ Rep Rnds 1-2 until work meas 3cm, ending after Rnd 2

WRIST

- ❑ Rnd 1: p12, (yfwd, ssk, k2) four times
- ❑ Rnd 2 and foll even-numbered rnds: k
- ❑ Rnd 3: p12, k1, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times, yfwd, ssk, k1
- ❑ Rnd 5: p12, (k2, yfwd, ssk) four times
- ❑ Rnd 7: p12, k3, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times, k1
- ❑ Rnd 8: k
- ❑ Rep Rnds 1-8

PALM AND THUMB

- ❑ Rnd 1: p9, pm, p1, pm, p2, (yfwd, ssk, k2) four times
- ❑ Rnd 2: k to first marker, sm, m1, k1, m1, sm, k to end. 30 sts

- ❑ Rnd 3: p15, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times, yfwd, ssk, k1
- ❑ Rnd 4: k to first marker, sm, m1, k to second marker, m1, sm, k to end. 32 sts
- ❑ Rnd 5: p18, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times, yfwd, ssk
- ❑ Rnd 6: as Rnd 4. 34 sts
- ❑ Rnd 7: p21, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times, k1
- ❑ Rnd 8: as Rnd 4. 36 sts
- ❑ Rnd 9: p24, (yfwd, ssk, k2) three times
- ❑ Rnd 10: as Rnd 4. 38 sts
- ❑ Rnd 11: p27, (yfwd, ssk, k2) twice, yfwd, ssk, k1
- ❑ Rnd 12 and foll even-numbered rnds: k
- ❑ Rnd 13: p28, (yfwd, ssk, k2) twice, yfwd, ssk
- ❑ Rnd 15: p29, (yfwd, ssk, k2) twice, k1
- ❑ Rnd 17: p30, (yfwd, ssk, k2) twice
- ❑ Rnd 19: p31, yfwd, ssk, k2, yfwd, ssk, k1
- ❑ Rnd 21: p32, yfwd, ssk, k2, yfwd, ssk
- ❑ Rnd 23: p33, yfwd, ssk, k3
- ❑ Rnd 24: k. 11 sts between thumb markers

COMPLETE HAND

- ❑ Rnd 1: p9, rm, sl next 11 sts on to waste yarn, rm, cast on two sts using backward-loop

- method and pull yarn tight across to other side of thumb, p14, yfwd, ssk, k2. 29 sts
- ❑ Rnd 2 and foll even-numbered rnds: k
 - ❑ Rnd 3: p26, yfwd, ssk, k1
 - ❑ Rnd 5: p27, yfwd, ssk
 - ❑ Rnd 6: k

EDGING

- ❑ Work as for Right glove

THUMB

- ❑ Work as for Right glove **LK**

coming next issue

LACE HEADBAND BY
CHARLOTTE WALFORD

Issue 79 of Let's Knit on sale
Friday 11th April



VERDIGRIS CONT FROM P53

- ❑ Row 48 (p fold ridge): k1, p to last st, k1
- ❑ Beg with a p row, work in st st until work meas 32.5cm
- ❑ Pm at each end of last row
- ❑ Cont in st st until work meas 65cm, ending after a WS row

BORDER AND HEM TURNINGS

- ❑ Row 1 (RS): k1, p to last st, k1
- ❑ Row 2: p1, k to last st, p1
- ❑ Change to 3.25mm needles
- ❑ Row 3: k
- ❑ Row 4: p
- ❑ Cast off kwise

Strap

- Using 3mm dpns cast on 68 sts and join in the rnd
- ❑ Rnd 1: k
 - ❑ Rnd 2: p
 - ❑ Rnds 3-5: k
 - ❑ Rnd 6: p
 - ❑ Rnd 7: k
 - ❑ Cast off kwise
- Fold cast-on and cast-off edges to centre, pin in place and sew. Weave in ends

Strap holder

- Thread yarn with six beads
- Using 3mm needles cast on 15 sts
- ❑ Row 1 (RS): p
 - ❑ Row 2: p
 - ❑ Row 3: k2, * pb, k1, rep from * to last three sts, pb, k2
 - ❑ Row 4: p
 - ❑ Cast off pwise
- NOTE:** cast-on edge is top
- Slip completed strap through holder and join sides together using mattress stitch

To make up BAG

- Lace Strap holder 2.5cm from top fold and 12cm from bottom fold of bag, ensuring Strap is on outside of Bag. Stitch firmly in place. **NOTE:** for stitching, they will be placed on left hand side but will be on right side when used. With wrong sides together, fold Bag in half lengthways, lining up edges. Pin in place and sew each side together using mattress stitch. Carefully sew through all layers of strap holder

- following line of mattress stitching. Pin top hems down to reveal a two-row external purl border all round. Separate one strand of yarn for sewing. Fold strand in half and taking needle through resulting loop, secure to one side seam and stitch all around hem. Smooth out completed bag. Lightly dampen made-up bag and pin to open dimensions. When partially dry, fold at top purl fold line and place over a coat hanger. Leave to dry

LINING

- Cut wadding and lining fabric to measurements. Allowing 1.5cm for each 'fold', mark these 18cm from each end of lining with seams on wrong side. Place wadding in centre of lining, adjusting 'folds' if necessary. Pin in place and, removing wadding, tack 'folds' and sew. Replace wadding and draw 'folds' down towards centre. Pin in place, fold over right and left hems twice, pin and sew all around. **NOTE:** wadding should look like framed picture. Fold lining and

- wadding in half with wadding on outside, ensuring 'fold' seams match up. Pin and tack in place, then oversew right and left seams. Over sew tucked-under fabric on either side of these seams. Place lining in bag and adjust lining hem. Fold over twice, oversew to ensure it stays put, then pin and sew, ensuring sewn stitches can't be seen from outside. Fold bag to its dimensions. Sew a popper in centre to fasten **LK**



MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Diameter: 23cm

Hearts: 4.5cm tall x 5.5cm wide

Chicks: 5cm tall

Bunnies: 7.5cm tall (including ears)

Eggs: 5.5cm tall

CROCHET KIT

Yarn: DMC Natura Just Cotton, (A) shade N01 Ibiza, (B) shade N02 Ivory, (C) shade N03 Sable, (D) shade N05 Blue Layette, (E) shade N06 Rose Layette, (F) shade N07 Spring Rose, (G) shade N16 Tournesol, (H) shade N30 Glicine, (I) shade N41 Siena, (J) shade N43 Golden Lemon, one 50g ball of each

Hook: 3mm

Stitch markers

Safety toy eyes: black, 6mm, ten

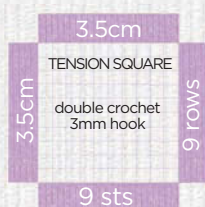
Felt: orange

Hoop: 23cm diameter

Fabric glue

Tapestry needle

Pipe cleaners



ABOUT THE YARN

DMC Natura Just Cotton is pure matt cotton that is around a 4ply in tension. It has excellent stitch definition so is ideal for crochet and comes in over 70 bright or pastel colourways.

Need an alternative yarn?

Bergere de France Coton Fifty is a 50/50 blend of cotton and acrylic and has a lovely soft finish. It's also a 4ply yarn so is a good substitute, and comes in 20 cheerful shades.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

dc2tog: (insert hook into next st, yoh, pull through loop) twice, yoh, pull through all three loops on hook

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



DMC Natura Just Cotton costs £2.99 per 50g (155m) ball from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

Bergere de France Coton Fifty costs £3.30 per 50g (140m) ball from 0845 838 3762, www.intoknit.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE CROCHET PATTERN

Springtime is a delightful cot mobile by Liz Ward and is full of the joys of the season

Cute chicks, adorable bunnies, colourful Easter eggs and sweet little hearts make this fabulous mobile a sure winner. The amigurumi figures are worked in a spiral using simple double crochet stitches. There's a bit of assembly required, but the crochet itself is relatively straightforward, so this project can even be made by beginners. The critters are each worked in a spiral, so place a stitch marker in the first stitch of your round to keep track of where you are.



EGGS (make one in yarns D and H, one in yarns D and E, one in yarns G and J, and one in yarns D and J)

Using 3mm hook make a magic ring

□ Foundation rnd: 6dc into ring. Six sts

Starting at top of Egg, work in a spiral, changing colours every two rnds

□ Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to end. 12 sts

□ Rnd 2: (1dc in first st, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

Pull yarn tail to close magic ring

□ Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end

□ Rnd 4: (1dc in next two sts, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

□ Rnd 5: 1dc in each st to end

□ Rnd 6: (1dc in next three sts, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts

□ Rnds 7-11: 1dc in each st to end

□ Rnd 12: (dc2tog, 1dc in next three sts) to end. 24 sts

□ Rnd 13: (dc2tog, 1dc in next two sts) to end. 18 sts

□ Rnd 14: (dc2tog, 1dc in next st) to end. 12 sts

Stuff firmly

□ Rnd 15: (dc2tog) to end.

Six sts

□ Fasten off

Sew hole at base. Weave in ends

START CROCHETING HERE

HOOP COVER

Using 3mm hook and yarn E, make eight ch

□ Row 1: 1dc in second ch from hook, 1dc in each ch to end, turn. Seven sts

□ Row 2: 1ch (does not count as a st), 1dc in each st to last st, 1dc joining in yarn J in final

step (see Crochet clever), turn

□ Rows 3-4: using yarn J, rep Row 2 twice, joining in yarn E in final step of last st

□ Cont in two-row stripes until work meas 72cm or fits around circumference of hoop

□ Fasten off, leaving a long tail Place strip around hoop and fold ends over to meet on inside. Sew seam and weave in ends

crochet clever

CHANGING COLOUR: Work to the last stitch of your row, in this case, it's a dc. Using your old colour, insert the hook into the last st, yoh and pull through the stitch. Using the new colour, yoh and pull through the two loops on the hook to complete the stitch. This will give you a neat colour change for your next row.

CHICKS (make one in yarn A, one in yarn D and one in yarn G)

Using 3mm hook make a magic ring
 □ Foundation rnd: 6dc into ring. Six sts
 □ Rnds 1-2: as for Eggs
 Pull yarn tail to close magic ring
 □ Rnd 3: as Rnd 4 of Eggs
 □ Rnd 4: as Rnd 6 of Eggs
 □ Rnds 5-12: 1dc in each st to end, pm after Rnd 5
 □ Rnd 13: as Rnd 12 of Eggs
 Insert safety eyes on marked rnd, placing them six sts apart
 □ Rnds 14-15: as Rnds 13-14 of Eggs
 Stuff firmly
 □ Rnd 16: (dc2tog) to end. Six sts
 □ Fasten off
 Sew hole at base closed.
 Weave in ends

To make up

Cut a small triangle out of orange felt and glue between eyes to form beak. Cut two slightly larger felt triangles, then make two small cuts at one side to form feet. Glue in place. Sew a strand of matching yarn in big loops to top of Chick's head. Cut loops and knot to secure. Trim to length required

BUNNIES (make one in yarn C and one in yarn I)

Head

Using 3mm hook make a magic ring
 □ Foundation rnd: 6dc into ring. Six sts
 □ Rnds 1-7: as for Chicks, pm after Rnd 5
 □ Work as Chicks from Rnd 13 to end
 Sew hole at based closed.
 Weave in ends

Ears

Using 3mm hook and same colour yarn as head, make a magic ring
 □ Foundation rnd: 6dc into ring. Six sts
 □ Rnd 1: (1dc in next st, 2dc in next st) to end. Nine sts
 □ Rnds 2-4: 1dc in each st to end
 □ Rnds 5-8: dc2tog, 1dc in each st to end. Five sts
 □ Rnds 9-10: 1dc in each st to end
 □ Fasten off
 Sew in place on top of head.
 Weave in ends

HEARTS (make one in yarn A, one in yarn F and one in yarn H)

Using 3mm hook, make a

**EASY
AMIGURUMI
CRITTERS!**



MAGIC RING
 For an online tutorial on
 this technique visit
www.letsknit.co.uk

magic ring

□ Foundation rnd: 6dc into ring. Six sts
 □ Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end
 □ Rep Rnd 1 until work meas 15cm
 □ Fasten off

Insert pipe cleaner through tube, trimming to fit. Sew ends together to form a circle, then

pinch into heart shape. Weave in ends

To make up

Decide on sequence of motifs, then cut a 10cm length of yarn in same shade as first motif. Sew yarn to shape and attach to hoop. Continue to attach

motifs, cutting each length of yarn 10cm longer than previous one. Position figures evenly spaced around hoop. Cut four 25cm lengths of yarn J. Mark four evenly-spaced points on hoop, sew yarn to each one then knot in centre so hoop hangs straight **LK**

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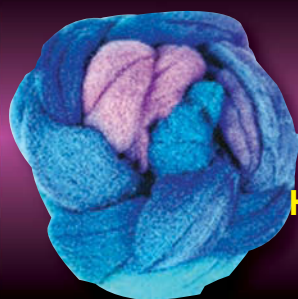
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“Knitting projects were always keeping our hands busy”

We chat to **Melanie Porter** about knitting for antiques, and her brand new book!



Image courtesy of Matt Connor photography

TOP
Five

Melanie's top choice of yarns in her stash

- 1 **Merino. 2/28's** - I ply up this yarn to make my required weight.
- 2 **Merino tops** - Great for chunky knits.
- 3 **Rowan Merino Silk DK** - Wonderful for baby knits.
- 4 **Sirdar Baby Bamboo** - Has a lovely handle for homewares.
- 5 **Organic rope** - I love experimenting with different ideas.

An avid crafter since childhood, Melanie Porter was destined to have a hugely successful creative career. From knitting squares with her grandmother to selling her beautifully restored and handknitted furniture at high profile shops, Melanie has excelled at creating original pieces and is now renowned for her designs. Melanie is also the author of a number of pattern books, including the hugely popular *Hand-Knit Your Home* and the latest addition - *The Hand-Knitted Nursery*.

I started knitting with my grandmother when I was very young. We would knit squares, which she would sew into blankets. I really started to experiment with knitting techniques when I was studying fashion design at college.

My mother is a great resource for information on many craft skills, from spinning and weaving to dyeing, printing and braiding. She was a spinning teacher in the 1970s and I still have some of her hand-spun yarn.

I began learning upholstery as a hobby and couldn't find the right fabric to use for the cover so I decided to make my own. I fell in love with the act of completely stripping back an old and tired piece of furniture and bringing it back to life looking fresh and desirable.

I love making my chairs more than anything else. The scale of these projects really excites me and I love the craft/industrial mix of my restored cinema seats. I was given a large bag of red mohair which inspired one of my first fashion designs - still referred to as the giant fluffy tomato. But often the chair inspires the design; its history or a specific feature on the frame.

My original Union Jack piece was made for a British ex-pat. However, I personally enjoy making them because of the strong graphic design of the Union Jack, rather than a true sense of patriotism.

My new book is called *The Hand-Knitted Nursery*. Many of the projects have origins in items that I remember from my childhood. Growing up in a family of craftsmen, I was surrounded by handmade toys, and sewing and knitting projects were always keeping our hands busy. Coincidentally I was also pregnant when writing the book.

For more information on Melanie and her products, visit www.melanieporter.co.uk



“I fell in love with the act of completely stripping back an old and tired piece of furniture and bringing it back to life looking fresh and desirable.”

A mask and pair of gloves are the most important tools when stripping an old piece. It's amazing how much dust and dirt gathers over the years. A lot of experimentation means that I know the precise shrinkage of each stitch I use to create the correct size knitting.

stash BUSTER

If I had time I would love to make an heirloom hexagon patchwork quilt with my stashed yarns.

Coming next issue

WE CATCH UP WITH KYOKO NAKAYOSHI TO TALK LONDON, JAPAN AND CATS!
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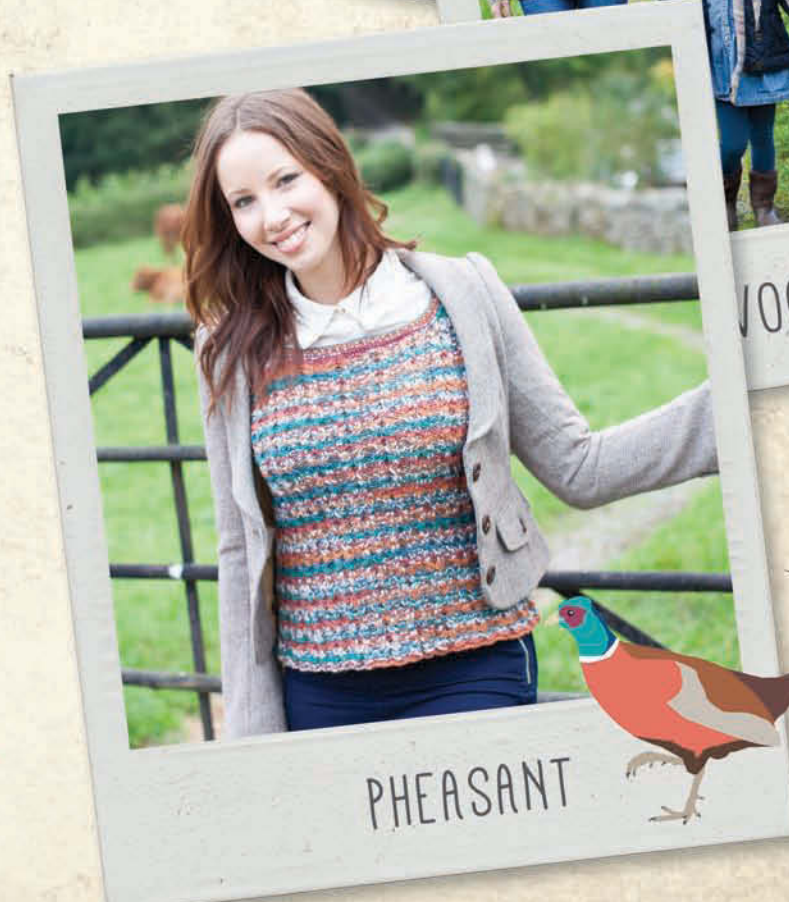
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